

Hafa Adai!

Star Marianas, 2 others want plane crash suit dismissed. » **PAGE 6**

Skywalker donates two statues of Ānimu. » **PAGE 15**

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Miura is NMI Teacher of the Year

By DAISY DEMAPAN
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REPORTER

Dr. Dora Miura, an algebra and geometry teacher at Saipan Southern High School, was named this week as the CNMI Public School System's Teacher of the Year.

Unlike previous years, when all public schools gathered for a field day for the surprise announcement of the honoree, PSS chose this year to keep the declaration low key.

Better known to her students as Mrs. Miura, the 2016 Teacher of the Year has been a teacher for over 19 years. Her career started at Tobu Machi Junior High School in Japan. She then moved to Saipan and joined the Northern Marianas College, then later San Antonio Elementary School for nine years, and has been with Saipan Southern High School since 2007.

See **MIURA** on **Page 4**

NMI, Guam AGs to United: Improve flight services

The attorneys general of the CNMI and Guam have joined forces to complain to United Airlines for what they described as the subpar and declining quality of service on United's Guam-Honolulu international route.

Guam Attorney General Elizabeth Barrett-Anderson and CNMI Attorney General Edward Manibusan issued a letter yesterday to acting United Airlines CEO Brett J. Hart, outlining numerous customer complaints and asking to initiate a dialogue to help improve services on United's Guam-Honolulu route.

The concerns raised in their letter include the loss of free in-flight meals, increased costs for luggage, loss of free entertainment,

See **NMI** on **Page 4**



DAISY DEMAPAN

Saipan Southern High School math teacher Dr. Dora Miura is named the CNMI's Teacher of the Year. She has taught for over 19 years and attributes her inspiration and passion to her friends, family, colleagues and students.

Tinian programs' shutdown continues until casino reopens

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission reiterated yesterday its position to sit on the application of potential investors and new managers of the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino until more investigative and licensing fees are paid. Tinian lawmakers, however, believe the need for these additional fees are nebulous and unneeded, as the lack of casino revenue funding streams to municipal programs have halted with the island's casino operations.

Tinian delegation lawmakers said in

See **TINIAN** on **Page 4**

Air Force to iron out kinks in historic effects

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

A top U.S. Air Force official leading talks for a divert airfield project in the CNMI said the CNMI and Air Force's disagreements over the project's impacts on historical sites may be "subjective," and hopefully would be ironed out in consultation that began in this week.

Air Force officials and consulting parties from the Inos administration and CNMI Historic Preservation Office, among others, are holding meetings this week that began Tuesday and continue into today.

The meetings come following a letter of "non-concurrence" last week from the CNMI government on the Air Force's find-

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INSIDE



LOCAL

Monster Pizza Pub's long-awaited grand opening will be held this Sunday, Nov. 8.

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NATION

A 'hero' police officer sis found to have embezzled from a youth program.

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LIFE & STYLE

Moshe Kai Cava-lin has two college degrees, but he's too young to vote.

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Momentum builds on disaster resilience in the Pacific region

SUVA, Fiji—National Disaster Management officers from 15 Pacific Island countries gathered in Fiji on Friday to review their successes and challenges in preparing for, responding to and recovering from disasters in the region, such as Cyclone Pam.

The European Union-supported Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific project is bringing the disaster managers together for the project's annual Regional Steering Committee implemented by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community to review the challenges, progress, and best way forward into 2016.

The meeting comes on the eve of the 9th Conference of the Pacific Community in Niue at which member countries, stakeholders and implementing partners will consider ways of building resilience in the region, based on the event theme, "Resilient Pacific people: Turning the tide."

The €19.36 million BSRP project allows country representatives to address risks from disaster and climate change in line with their national priorities during its second year of implementation.

The European Union Delegation for the Pacific, acting Head of Cooperation, Jesús Laviña, said: The EU realizes that while the Pacific region has huge potential, it is the most vulnerable

to natural disasters and thus the EU is committed to building resilience features prominently in both its humanitarian and development assistance. The EU commitment is not only about doing more it is also about doing better.

BSRP project manager Taito Nakalevu said understanding the challenges we face as a region whilst ensuring National Disaster Managers have the capacity to create country-specific responses is crucial to the long-term sustainability of effective disaster mitigation and response into the future.

"The BSRP project has already achieved great success with many countries working together with key partners to bring more efficient and collaborative approaches to disaster management which is highly effective for natural and related hazards that affect the region," he said.

Nakalevu said this project is dedicated to supporting national needs for each country to best prepare, respond and recover from disaster whilst boosting institutional capability of each National Disaster Management Office which will be evident with a special announcement and launch of key supporting materials next week in Niue by the European Union, SPC and the Government of Niue. (SPC)



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'407 SBA loans approved'

By **DAISY DEMAPAN**
daisy_demapan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Small Business Administration said it has approved 407 loans that includes home and business applications out of the 1,287 applications it received from victims of Typhoon Soudelor.

The new figure clarifies the 274 loans SBA was said to have approved, as earlier cited by Community Advocates for Recovery Efforts director Jenny Hegland.

SBA public information officer William Koontz made the correction to *Saipan Tribune* and added that the 407 approved loans bring \$19.6 million in assistance for home and business recovery efforts.

During a presentation to Rotary Club of Saipan at the Hyatt last Tuesday, Hegland also shared that 8,806 people registered for FEMA and only 28 were offered the max grant of \$32,900, which is completely separate from SBA's program.

McDonald's temporary business and holiday hours of operations

Due to employees still recovering from the effects of Typhoon Soudelor, McDonald's Chalan Pale Arnold Road and Garapan continue to have limited business hours.

"Our employees are still recovering and rebuilding their homes...and we want to give them time," general manager Marcia Ayuyu said.

Ayuyu explained that McDonald's in Chalan Pale Arnold Road is currently open for a limited time only from 6:30am to 8pm while the Garapan store currently opens at 6:30am and closes at 9:30pm.

She said they plan to go back to the normal pre-typhoon business hours for their Chalan Pale Arnold Road store—opening at 6:30am and closing at 10pm—effective Nov. 29.

"For the Garapan store, we plan to increase our business hours—currently opening at 6:30am and closing at 9:30pm. Effective Nov. 29, our new Garapan store business hours will be opening at 6:30am and closing at midnight. We will open this store 24/7 starting Jan. 1,

2016," she said.

This year, McDonald's will be closing both locations on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26, a Thursday. They will re-open for business the following day, Friday, Nov. 27, at 6:30am.

"Despite the limited business hours, there is really no way for

our customers not to enjoy their favorite meal at McDonald's, especially, the all-day breakfast that is now being offered at our Chalan Pale Arnold Road location. We are now serving our most popular breakfast items all day like their favorite muffin, hash brown, sausage burrito and hot cakes," Ayuyu said.

McDonald's new menu boards, which arrived via container this week, will also soon be up. Customers will once again be able to pick and choose their favorite meal easily when ordering.

"McDonald's staff and management would like to thank the community for their continued patronage, patience and understanding as we continue to recover from the effect of Typhoon Soudelor," Ayuyu said. (McDonald's)



Ayuyu

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TINIAN

From Page 1

a statement yesterday that the lack of a Tinian local budget is not a result of a willful failure to pass a budget but a result of the closure of the Tinian Dynasty casino and consequently, the lack of any funding stream or casino license fee deposit.

Lawmakers said that if they passed a local budget based on current estimated revenue projection, they would be violating a fiduciary duty to refrain from incurring an unfunded debt for the municipality. This would essentially authorize agencies to “write checks knowing there are no funds in the account,” lawmakers said.

Lucy L. Blanco-Maratita, the commission’s executive director, said yesterday that the processing of the Tinian Entertainment Company/Chinese Strategic Holdings Ltd.’s casino license application is on hold until they pay the required additional investigative/licensing cost deposit of \$100,000.

“The commission cannot proceed and award a casino license without a finding of suitability, and in order to find an applicant suitable, the commission needs the investigate report to make that determination,”

she told *Saipan Tribune*.

“The additional investigative fee is necessary in order to complete the investigations,” she added.

Meantime, the commission could not confirm reports that the Tinian Dynasty casino would resume operations on Nov. 15.

Maratita said they have heard of the report and are awaiting confirmation.

“What they need [to do] is to submit a reopening plan and they need to pay some of the fees that are required before they can open,” she said yesterday.

Since the casino closed, the Dynasty reported that more than 150 employees have been laid off. In September, Tinian Mayor Joey San Nicolas told *Saipan Tribune* that he had informed a number of employees of their last day of work, as casino revenues reportedly provide funding for 43 positions within the Tinian gaming commission, Tinian Mayor’s Office, and the Tinian Municipal Council.

‘No need for more fees’

In a statement, Sen. Frank M. Borja, chairman of the Tinian Legislative Delegation, and delegations members said it was a “mystery” as to why the com-

mission’s required \$100,000 fee is still needed.

The Tinian and Aguiguan Legislative Delegation were clarifying the issues surrounding the non-passage of a local budget for Tinian and Aguiguan for fiscal year 2016 based on casino gaming revenue projections.

Borja noted that in June/July 2014, Mega Stars, Inc.—a new investor planning to take over the Tinian Dynasty operations—filed its application for a casino license with the Tinian gaming commission and deposited the requisite fees. More than one year later and based on undisclosed reasons, the commission has yet to decide on Mega Stars’ casino license application.

Subsequently, Borja said, in February 2015, another and the current investor interested in taking over Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino—the Tinian Entertainment Co. Ltd.—filed its applications for a casino license at the commission and deposited the required fees. But to date, the commission had not decided on the application.

Tinian Dynasty temporarily shut down its casino operations in August due to financial constraints and difficulties.

Because of this, there has been no gaming revenue col-

lection deposited at the Tinian Municipal Treasury since September 2015, Borja said.

“The TCGCC and its personnel continued to be paid up until mid-September 2015 when the entire casino gaming revenue was depleted. Although the lack of funding for the operations of the TCGCC has stalled its general operations, there is no casino to inspect due to the closure of Tinian Dynasty casino,” he said.

“Contrary to what has been published in the newspapers, the TCGCC does not need to wait for a local appropriation for TCGCC to continue its review of the casino license application of TEC, the current investor planning to take over the operation of Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino. In February 2015, TEC paid an investigative fee of \$100,000 to the TCGCC to conduct its suitability investigation. It is a mystery why TCGCC now needs an additional \$100,000 to conduct and conclude its pending TEC investigation. “

“Moreover, the TCGCC should not wait for local appropriation to continue its work. During this critical time of the casino industry, the work of the TCGCC should not be dependent on whether they get compensated or not. They remain

commissioners whether or not there is budget so they must act accordingly.”

Borja said that although the Revised Tinian Casino Gaming Control Act mandates the delegation to pass a local budget for the operations of TCGCC on or before Oct. 1, 2015, there needs to be a “funding stream” before they start deliberating on the Tinian local budget.

“It would be fiscally irresponsible of the delegation to pass a local budget knowing that the casino is closed and there is no gaming revenue to collect at this time.”

Difficult to project revenue

Borja said the delegation is cognizant that the revenue projection of the TCGCC is only an “estimated” projection. “However, the estimated projection must be realistic, collectable, and based on the previous years’ collection trends in order for the delegation to confidently rely on such numbers.”

He noted, though, that the record would show that the commissions’ estimated revenue projections for the last three fiscal years have been grossly inflated.

“...Only about 50-75 percent of the estimated revenue pro-

jections have been collected by TCGCC,” he said.

Borja said the delegation has asked the commission if it intended to amend its estimated revenue projection for fiscal year 2016 due to the temporary closure of the Tinian Dynasty casino, to which the TCGCC replied in the negative.

These kinds of inconsistencies make it difficult for the delegation to confidently rely on such estimated gaming revenue projections when deliberating on a local budget for Tinian, he noted.

“Notwithstanding the closure of the Tinian Dynasty casino and lack of gaming revenue collection, the delegation will pass a local budget when there is a substantial deposit of the Tinian Dynasty’s annual license fee or when the casino opens, whichever is first. “Once a substantial casino license fee deposit is made at the Tinian Municipal Treasury and the funds are certified, the delegation will pass a partial Tinian local budget to appropriate the full amount to the TCGCC operations until such time that the Tinian Dynasty casino resumes its operations or there is another substantial amount deposited at the Municipal Treasury.

AIR FORCE

From Page 1

ings on impacts to historical sites on Saipan.

Col. Michael R. Cardoza, U.S. Air Force chief of Strategy and Plans Division, told reporters that their divert project has been reduced in scope, requiring a smaller plot of land on Saipan.

Cardoza disclosed that the Air Force first received a letter concurring with USAF findings in August that was revoked by the CNMI a couple of days later. A letter of non-concurrence eventually followed in October.

“That’s one of reasons why we are here to talk about why we got a non-concurrence, why we were able to get a concurrence on our 2012 proposal and not get concurrence on a greatly reduced scope? Those are the details we are working out this week, as to why they did not concur with our findings of effect,” he said.

In their August findings, the Air Force found that the proposed action would have no direct adverse effect on contributing elements to the Aslito/Isley Field, the Saipan Landing

Beaches [a national historical landmark], Aslito/Isley Field, Marpi Point National Historic Landmark, or other historic properties on Saipan.

But in their letter last week, HPO took issue with PACAF’s method of analysis, which sticks to labeling and identifying effects as “direct or indirect.” According to the HPO letter, that is not the issue at hand, as federal historic preservation law requires federal agencies like the military to “resolves the potential adverse effects of their program.”

“Really, the non-concurrence is based on the feeling that our findings of potential impacts, they don’t agree with that,” Cardoza said. “They feel that there is going to be more impacts than we are identifying, and that’s why we are here this week to talk through those...to find what the impacts are going to be.

“We previously had concurrence so we want to understand what has changed, what has changed in 2012, what changed when we got the concurrence letter to a couple of days later when we did have a disagreement.”

He said the Air Force team

on island is going to work with historic preservation experts through “each potential impact one by one and identify what we feel the impacts may be and what they feel the impacts may be and hopefully come to a mutual agreement on what we call a programmatic agreement.”

One major concern from HPO is that the divert infrastructure would ruin the historic setting of World War II bunkers on Saipan. Cardoza disagrees, saying the Air Force made sure its project is going to “deconflict” from those bunkers.

“We are not going to affect them. We are not going to build over them...anything like that. But there are some subjective things we need to look at. Are we impacting the ‘feel’ of those historical sites? That’s the part we have to work on. There are some very objective facts that we have to say ‘there’s an impact’ or ‘there is not an impact,’ but there is also some very subjective factors and that’s where we’ll probably have the differences. Just the fact that we are going to be on the airfield, is that going to impact historic sites?”

In their letter last week, HPO

said the Air Force had incorrectly gauged the potential effects of a divert airfield on Saipan on historical properties.

“On an island the size of 44 square miles, the proposed construction and operation activities will cause significant adverse effects to recognized historical properties,” wrote HPO. “The construction and operational activities at the seaport and airport and the fuel transfer transportation route to and from the airport are all directly situated in the ‘heart’ of Saipan’s commercial and tourism districts.”

HPO detailed the effects of a proposed parking apron on two historical bunkers from World War II situated along the taxiway of the Saipan airport in an open field of grass with security fence off in the distance. HPO says these two bunkers are situated in highly visible and a prominent location at the Saipan landmark. Passengers departing or arriving on aircraft at the airport pass directly by these bunkers either on the way to and from the arrival/departure gates, HPO said.

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

In a statement, Manibusan said this is the first of many ventures the Consumer Protection Divisions of the CNMI and Guam Attorney General’s Office will embark on under a cooperative agreement between the two offices on behalf of local consumers for both islands.

Airline consumers from Guam and the CNMI frequently travel to Hawaii, mostly for medical referral issues, and have complained for years about United Airline’s declining quality of service. (*Saipan Tribune*)

NMI

From Page 1

older planes causing frequent breakdowns, and insufficient flight crews, to name a few.

While customers understood that the Continental-United Airlines merger would result in certain changes, the resulting changes have been very frustrating, they said.

“The level of service provided by United on this route has never met the level of Continen-

tal,” which was “deeply rooted in this region and invested in its people,” Barrett-Anderson and Manibusan wrote.

Barrett-Anderson and Manibusan pointed out that the Guam-Honolulu route is an international flight, yet United does not provide free in-flight meals and two free-checked baggage to consumers on the flight as United provides for all the other international Asia-Pacific flights.

“Instead, [customers] are treated as if traveling on a do-

mestic North American route and are forced to pay for meals, certain beverages, and a baggage fee after the first checked bag,” they said.

They pointed out that “these inequities are even more glaring...given that the fare for the [Guam-Honolulu] route is more than twice as much as the [Narita-Honolulu] fare.”

Barrett-Anderson and Manibusan said they intend to reach out to government officials in the Western Pacific Region whose consumers are also affected.

MIURA

From Page 1

She received her bachelor’s from Georgetown University, her master’s from University of Hawaii at Manoa, and in May of 2014 received her doctorate at UH Manoa in curriculum studies.

Miura has been involved in numerous and notable professional conferences and mentorships such as the National Teacher of the Year conference on education policy. She also participated in the “Mathematics and Culture in Micronesia: Integrating Societal Experiences” project, which aimed to show teachers across Micronesia how to create math units that are relevant to the culture of their respective island.

She also serves as the CNMI Mathcourt administrator, the CNMI PSS learning community, and previously served as a math mentor.

“The National Science Foundation inspired my love for mathematics. I hoped to become a math resource teacher... but since that wasn’t possible, I asked to transfer to where I am currently employed so that I may teach math all day. In this project, I was a math mentor for several teachers at different schools. As a mentor, I conducted math workshops for them, observed them in their classrooms, and attended summer institutes that focused on math content and pedagogy,” she said.

Miura said her first group of students from San Antonio Elementary School, the 4th grade class of 1998, was the reason she fell in love with teaching.

Miura would like to thank the support of her friends, family, fellow teachers, and staff for the honor of being named the

Teacher of the Year.

“My parents are the reason I place a high value on education. They always prioritized education in our household. Each of my siblings always knew that school came first and we were always challenged to do our best,” she said.

To the teachers of the CNMI, she says, “I am honored and humbled to represent all of you as your 2016 CNMI Teacher of the Year. I truly believe that each one of us has something unique to offer our students. Like our students, we are all different and it’s those differences that we must embrace and use to offer our students a varied and rich educational experience. [Albert] Einstein said, ‘I never teach my pupils, I only provide the conditions in which they can learn.’ Let us continue to provide our students with these conditions for learning.”

“To the rest of my students, including the ones sitting in my geometry classes now, thank you for continuing to inspire me to remain a teacher and to my Manta and former Octopus families, thank you for your support and allowing me to learn from you and to the [Commissioner of Education] and the State Board of Education, thank you for continuing to honor our teachers through Education Week. Your continued support is a testament to the value you place on the educators of the CNMI,” she said.

She also offered some insight to the students of the CNMI: “If you work hard, if you are gritty, know that you can accomplish anything. Failure is a painful necessity in life. When you fail, or when you fall, learn from it, get up and try again. This is grit. Fail forward. As Einstein said, ‘genius is 1 percent talent and 99 percent hard work.’”

'Laos trumped up charges vs Baldwin for refusing to pay bribes'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Lawyers for Bridge Capital LLC accused the Laos government of trumping up false charges against Bridge Capital co-owner John K. Baldwin because the businesses that Baldwin ran in Laos would not pay bribes.

Attorneys Deborah Deitsch Perez and Michael Dotts said the Laos government is abusing U.S. law in an attempt to coerce Baldwin into abandoning efforts to make it live up to its commitments.

Attorney William M. Fitzgerald, who is counsel for Laos, pointed out, though, that despite Baldwin's assertion that Bridge Capital "does not do business in Laos," the company received \$27.2 million in 84 transactions from Savan Vegas and Casino Co. Ltd. in Laos.

Fitzgerald said the \$27.2 million underscore the significance of their request for discovery in connection with their request for the U.S. District Court for the NMI to issue a subpoena.

Laos asked for subpoena to be served on Bridge Capital and on Bridge Capital chief financial officer David Jensen, in order to obtain documents in connection with the criminal tax investigations in Laos and in connection with two international arbitration proceedings in Singapore.

Fitzgerald discussed the alleged \$27.2 million payments in Laos' reply to Bridge Capital's response to Lao's application for discovery.

Fitzgerald pointed out that in August 2013, the Savan Vegas loan schedule reflects a loan balance of \$49.7 million.

The lawyer said the schedule outlines approximately \$1.4 million in various fees and interest.

That month, he added, the Savan Vegas paid over \$2.69 million against the loan.

Fitzgerald said despite the fact that the Savan Vegas Casino paid nearly \$1.3 million more than the interest and fees for that month, the loan balance remained unchanged, to the penny, in September 2013, at \$49.7 million.

He said the same pattern occurs from September to October and so on.

For the purposes of Lao's application, Fitzgerald said \$1.825 million of the \$2.69 million paid against the loan in August 2013, was paid to Bridge Capital, not Sanum Investments or Lao Holdings N.V.

Fitzgerald said these payments expose Baldwin's contradictory position and demonstrate that the financial documents of Bridge Capital, "which does consolidate its financial statements with Sanum Investments and Lao Hold-

»Laos counsel: Bridge Capital got \$27.2M from Laos casino

ings," are necessary to understanding Baldwin's fraudulent bookkeeping scheme.

According to Fitzgerald, Bridge Capital is the parent company of Sanum Investments and Lao Holdings.

He said Sanum and Lao Holdings are parties in the arbitrations and that Sanum is the target of the Lao proceedings.

He said Lao Holdings owns the Savan Vegas and Casino located in Laos.

Fitzgerald said the casino opened in 2009 and that Savan Vegas is now owned 80 percent by the Baldwin group and 20 percent by Laos.

In Bridge Capital's response to Lao's application, Perez and Dotts said Laos failed to carry its burden to show that the court should issue the requested subpoena.

Perez and Dotts said the subpoenas cannot have a legitimate basis because Bridge Capital is not the parent of, and does not hold an interest in, either Sanum or Lao Holdings.

Nor does Bridge Capital have consolidated financials with Sanum or Lao Holdings, the lawyers said.

They said Bridge Capital does no business in Laos, but rather Bridge Capital owners

are Sanum executives who have interests in Lao Holdings.

Perez and Dotts said Laos lured Baldwin and the companies he runs—Sanum Investments and Lao Holdings—to invest millions of dollars in Laos in exchange for numerous benefits, such as favorable tax treatment, control over an exclusive gaming zone, a free trade zone, and the ability to open slot clubs.

Perez and Dotts said that when Baldwin refused to funnel the investment's profits under the table to government officials, Laos reneged on its tax commitments, seized assets worth hundreds of millions of dollars, and gave the Thanaleng

Slot Club to a Lao company.

They said Laos eventually forcibly stole, among other things, the Savan Vegas casino hotel and resort, a business owned 80 percent by Sanum, a subsidiary of Lao Holdings.

To shield its conduct, Perez

and Dotts said, Laos is employing misdirection and character assassination—using the "big lie" theory of persuasion.

"None of this is new for [the government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic]," they said.

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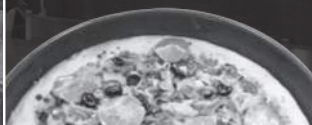
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Star Marianas, 2 others want plane crash suit dismissed

Star Marianas Air Inc. and two other companies are asking the federal court to dismiss the lawsuit filed against them by passengers of a plane that crashed at the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport in 2012, which killed one and injured five others.

Star Marianas Inc., Marianas Air Transfer Inc., and Tinian Travel Management Solutions Inc. asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to dismiss the lawsuit filed by passengers Xiuzhong Zhu, Meilin Zhou, and Xiaohua Zhou, who were all injured in the crash.

Another passenger, Xin Hong, agreed to settle the matter. Xiaojie Ge, a representative of passenger Weilian Lu who was killed in the crash and Lu's

minor daughter, Y. Ge, has also agreed to settle the case.

Attorneys Timothy H. Bellas and Jonathan Harriman are counsels for Star Marianas, Marianas Air Transfer, and Tinian Travel Management.

The seven-passenger Piper PA-32 Cherokee Six crash landed into the trees north of the Saipan airport runway on Nov. 19, 2012, killing Weilian Lu and injuring the pilot and four other passengers. The plane was operated by Star Marianas Air, chartered by Marianas Air Travel, and maintained by Tinian Management Solutions.

In their motion to dismiss, Bellas and Harriman asserted that the entire complaint against Marianas Air Travel should be

dismissed because it is shielded from liability by law and the plaintiffs' Commonwealth claims have already been decided by the federal court.

Marianas Air Travel, the lawyers said, is entitled to dismissal of these claims because the company had no control over the plane in question other than as its lessor.

Bellas and Harriman said plaintiffs' Montreal Convention claims against Marianas Air Travel and Tinian Travel Management are subject to dismissal because the Convention only applies to air carriers. The Montreal Convention governs the relationship between the carriers and passengers.

The lawyers said the plaintiffs have already been given

two opportunities to amend their complaints to rectify insufficient and improper pleadings.

These repeated pleading failures, they argue, demonstrate that there is no evidence to support these claims and that plain-

tiffs cannot assert viable causes of action against Marianas Air Travel or Tinian Travel Management. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Man gets prison time for burglary

A man arrested for allegedly burglarizing an apartment in Garapan has pleaded guilty plea and was slapped with two months and 10 days imprisonment.

Xin Liang, 25, pleaded guilty to criminal mischief as part of a plea deal.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman sentenced Liang to four months imprisonment, all suspended except for two

months and 10 days, with credit for an equivalent period of time served. That means he will no longer serve more jail time.

Liang was placed on six months of probation and ordered to pay \$80 in restitution to the victim, \$100 fine, and \$25 court assessment fee.

Police said it was the neighbors of Wo Qiang Gao who called the police and reported a burglary in progress

in the afternoon of June 16, 2015, when they saw Liang climbing out of the victim's apartment's window.

The victim said it was the second time his room was burglarized, but that nothing was stolen in the latest incident.

The suspect gained entry through the air-conditioning vent. The air-conditioning unit was damaged after it fell on the floor. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT:



With Veteran's Day approaching soon, Best Sunshine International, LTD. is inviting all students and the general public to participate in the Veteran's Poetry Contest. We would like to show our Appreciation to the Veterans through a series of dedicated gratitude and admiration verses. And we would love to get our community involve in partaking in this celebrated day.

Details are as follows:

Four categories:

- (1) All Elementary Schools (1st to 5th Grade)
- (2) All Junior High Schools (6th to 8th Grade)
- (3) All High Schools (9th to 12th Grade)
- (4) Public (everyone 18yrs and above)

Subject: Veterans

Deadline: November 9, 2015 at 4:00pm

Submission: Email poems to csrbestsunshine@gmail.com or you can drop off your poems to the 3rd floor at the Bank of Guam building in Garapan see Kelly or Ryan at front desk.

There will be Prizes for each category.

NOTE: All entries will become the property of Best Sunshine International, LTD.

For more information, please contact 588-6609 during working hours.

Man nabbed for domestic violence, leaving 3 kids in car to play poker

An intoxicated man was arrested for allegedly beating up his girlfriend and threatening to pour laundry soap in her mouth at their house in San Antonio Tuesday night.

Komgish Tannakan, 36, also known as Bond, also allegedly forced the girlfriend to play poker with him, leaving their three children, all below 4 years old, inside their car on early Wednesday morning.

Tannakan was arrested for assault and battery, assault, disturbing the peace, child abuse or neglect, and interfering with a domestic violence report. His bail was set at \$1,000 cash and \$9,000 unsecured bond.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman barred Tannakan from having any contact with the alleged victim and from visiting any poker arcades.

Preliminary hearing will be on Nov. 10 at 1:30pm. Arraign-

ment will be on Nov. 16 at 9am.

Attorney Joe Hill appeared as counsel for Tannakan. Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas appeared for the government.

Police said that officers responded to AJ Poker in Afetnas early Wednesday morning after the victim called for help. When the officers arrived at 1:18am, the victim was in the cashier's booth, crying. Tannakan was standing at the booth's window.

The victim told police that earlier that night Tannakan slapped her in the face and threatened to kill her. He allegedly got a cup full of powdered laundry detergent, grabbed her by the mouth, and threatened to pour the detergent in her mouth to kill her.

Tannakan also allegedly grabbed her by the hair, dragged her for about 15 feet, and kicked her against the wall.

Later, Tannakan allegedly brought her and the children to AJ Poker so he could play poker, leaving the children in the car.

The victim later went to the cashier's booth and used the phone to call for police assistance. Tannakan came and pulled the phone away from her, preventing her from calling the police.

Tannakan tried to pull her out from the cashier's booth but she held on to the door and kept crying, asking for help. A security guard approached, told the victim to go inside the booth, and called the police. At 1:48am, Tannakan was arrested.

The victim refused to be transported to the Commonwealth Health Center because no one was going to watch their three children. Police brought the victim and the children to their house. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Final Let's Move Marianas mini expo tomorrow

Let's Move Marianas will hold its last mini expo for the year on Saturday, Nov. 7, at the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School, from 7:30am to 10:30am.

"We're inviting the whole community to come out," Let's Move Marianas chair Amber Mendiola said. "It's open to the whole family, not just the kids."

At the mini expo, children can take part in several physical activities and games. Families can also learn healthy eating habits.

Let's Move Marianas' partners such as Northern Marianas College-Cooperative Research, Extension and Education Service, Joeten-Kiyu Public Li-

brary, and the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority will also exhibit the different services they have.

"When they're done, they get a gift for participating," Mendiola said.

The Let's Move Marianas expo was divided into various mini expos this year due to Typhoon Soudelor. The organization usually holds it every year at the Gilbert C Ada Gymnasium but that location is still undergoing repairs.

"We decided to go to the villages and cater to them," Mendiola said. "It's just something that we want to do in light of everything that's been going on."

At least it's something positive to bring to the villages."

Let's Move Marianas held their mini expos at Hopwood Jr. High School as well as in Chacha Oceanview Middle School. Just last week, they also held one in conjunction with the JKPL Trunk Or Treat where kids were brought to the side of the library to participate in various activities.

Mendiola said it turned out to be a fun event where kids and even parents in costumes participated in various activities such as volleyball and obstacle courses.

Afterwards, kids were handed out fruits instead of candies. *(Frauline S. Villanueva-Dizon)*



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CSC strives to improve status of NMI govt employees

The Civil Service Commission had a busy start to the new fiscal year with four meetings during the month, each of several days' duration.

"We have a lot of projects in progress and more planned for this upcoming year," said commission chair Herman R. Deleon Guerrero. "We are working with the Legislature and the governor to accomplish some of the initiatives from this past year and to get some new ones started for this year to come."

Deleon Guerrero pointed out that during the past year the commission ended the 12-year freeze on promotional increases and had been working with the

governor and the Legislature on the still frozen within-grade increase and the bonus for employees at step 12.

"These are important issues that we are continuing to work on. It's a matter of funding, but we believe that it is important to recognize an employee's performance. The Legislature and the governor agree—it's just the money that's preventing it from happening."

According to the chairman, the commission is also still waiting for the Legislature to act on the new compensation bill, House Bill 19-03, that it initiated last year.

Charles Calvo, chairman of the Budget and Fiscal Committee, emphasized the importance

of this endeavor. "The current salary schedule is 24 years old. It's outdated and can only partly be used. It's time for a change."

Also, in March 2015, the commission and the Office of Personnel Management relocated to Spring Plaza in Gualo Rai.

"Any government employee who has not seen your new OPM office should come, visit and take a look around," said Personnel director Isidro Seman.

With the move, the commission also renovated the space next door to OPM for its office, meeting place, and hearing chamber.

The new commission office and hearing chamber had its grand opening on Sept. 25, with

the governor cutting the ribbon.

Deleon Guerrero said he was speaking to civil service employees when he said, "We had this chamber built for a purpose, to make sure that employees know we are here for their appeals and grievances when they become necessary."

"OPM and the commission are here to serve all civil service employees, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan," added Arsene Borja, the commissioner from Tinian. "Our goal, both OPM's and the commission's, is to develop and have in place regulations and systems that will both help the government run smoothly and, at the same time, make sure that employees' rights are respected."

The commission has a full quorum, plus one extra, ensuring it has sufficient members to conduct business. After the resignations of commissioners Augustina Kukun and Eric L. Plinske, the governor appointed Catalina Tebit to the commission. Two positions still remain vacant: the commissioner from

Rota and one from Saipan.

"I am grateful to the governor and the Senate for the confidence they showed in me," said Tebit. "I look forward to working with my fellow commissioners on the many plans we have been discussing this past month."

Commission vice chair Felicitas "Tee" Abraham said: "We have many very important projects. I especially want to see the restoration of the public internship program. It's an important program that will help get our new graduates into the government workforce. I also want to obtain funding to help provide our employees with additional training and development to help expand their skills and abilities."

Deleon Guerrero said the coming year will be a busy one, following up on actions already started and initiating new projects. Some planned emphases this year include:

■ Working with the Legislature to finalize and to enact into law the proposed new salary schedule;

■ Revitalizing the government's internship program for college graduates lacking work experience;

■ Obtaining federal funding and assistance for human resource training and programs for the commission, staff of the Office of Personnel Management, and other government employees;

■ Pushing for progress on the frozen annual within-grade increase and bonus programs; and

■ Updating the Personnel Service Systems Rules and Regulations.

Deleon Guerrero applauded the cooperation the commission has been receiving. "The tasks we face are very challenging, but with the administration and the Legislature as partners in achieving these goals, we can make them happen. We all share the responsibility to make the government and its employment practices more effective and we must all work together for the benefit of all employees and the community." (CSC)

CCA board thanks Breast Cancer Awareness Month supporters

The Commonwealth Cancer Association board of directors, president Lauri B. Ogumoro, and board members expressed their gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to the many individuals, organizations, families, partners, and sponsors who helped make the 2015 Breast Cancer Awareness Month a resounding success. The hard work, commitment, and teamwork of many dedicated individuals in our community have made CCA's services and programs successful.

The CCA wishes to thank the following partners for joining forces in October to raise awareness about breast cancer, as well as sponsoring fundraising events to benefit CCA programs and services: The Department of Fire-EMS, Transcends LLC, Naked Fish, Bank of Guam, Best Sunshine International, Kanoa Football Association, CHCC-Division of Public Health Service, and KKMP.

The Department of Fire-EMS raised \$9,517 on its boot drive and T-shirts sales and collaborated with Bank of Guam for the Walkathon. The Pink Warrior

event held at Naked Fish raised \$6,018. Best Sunshine International helped out by purchasing \$1,600 worth of tickets for the Pink Warrior event, and sponsored two banners at \$640 for a total cash and in-kind donation of \$2,240. The total funds raised in October amounted to \$15,535.

CCA thanks Docomo Pacific, T Galleria, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Cosmos Distributing Co., Modern Stationery, Century Tours, Pacific Islands Club, Marpac, Inc., Coral Ocean Point, Aqua Resort Club, Mariana Resort & Spa, McDonald's Saipan, and Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan for their raffle prize donation. The Pink Warrior Event also featured entertainers Maggie Naputi & Daughter, Donovan Castro, Parker Yobei, Marvin Deleon Guerrero, and Al Saures.

The CCA hopes to see this disease brought to the attention of as many individuals as possible through collaboration of this kind.

"At this time, there is no sure way to prevent breast cancer, which is why regular screening is so important," said Ogumoro. "Women should talk to their doc-

tors about their risks and the benefits of screening. It's important for women to be active participants in their breast health."

When it comes to breast cancer survival rates, early detection is critical. The five-year survival rate for breast cancer detected and diagnosed before it is felt is 98 percent.

"It is important to educate both men and women about the importance of early detection, and encourage to have critical conversations about appropriate screenings, with their healthcare provider," said Dr. Daniel Lamar, CCA medical adviser.

The Commonwealth Cancer Association, is a non-profit 501(c)(3) public service charity that provides information, direct financial patient support, survivorship, patient navigation, education, prevention and advocacy related to this disease and other cancers.

Contact the CCA at telephone 682-0050, by email at ccamarianas@gmail.com, or log on to www.ccamarianas.org website for more information about the CCA and its programs. (CCA)

Next week is Veterans Awareness Week

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Acting governor Ralph DLG Torres signed yesterday a proclamation declaring Nov. 8 to Nov. 15 as "Veterans Awareness Week." Veterans Day is next Wednesday on Nov. 11.

The proclamations pays tribute to all veterans of the United States Armed Forces, and the service and sacrifice of all those who have bravely worn the uniform of the Armed Forces.

The proclamation calls all CNMI citizens to recognize the bravery and sacrifice of veterans through ceremony and prayer, and to encourage everyone to display their flags and support and participate in patriotic ac-

tivities next week.

"Our country is forever indebted to our veterans for their courage and exemplary service," Torres states in the proclamation. "We also remember and honor those who laid down their lives in freedom's defense. These brave men and women made the ultimate sacrifice for our benefit. On Veterans Day, we remember these heroes for their valor, their loyalty, and their dedication. Their selfless sacrifice continue to inspire us today as we work to advance peace and extend freedom around the world."

"We salute their services, honor their sacrifices, and honor them for supporting this nation in every hour of need. And we

acknowledge that freedom's cost continues long after the guns fall silent. Many of our veterans bear the disabilities and scars of military service. The families of those who never returned from their service live always with a profound sense of loss. It is our duty to remember what veterans have done and to uphold our commitments to them and their families."

CLARIFICATION

Aqua Resort Club would like to clarify that Anna Rose, the winner of their Halloween contest last Oct. 31, which was published in an article last Nov. 3, was dressed as a "Pirate Lady."

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CDA honors late legal counsel F. Matthew Smith

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
frauline_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Development Authority adopted a resolution yesterday to honor their long-time legal counsel who recently passed away.

In a meeting, board members passed Resolution 2015-006 expressing their appreciation to the late F. Matthew Smith.

The resolution read: "Whereas the late F. Matthew Smith served as the legal counsel to CDA for many years prior to his untimely

passing on Aug. 1, 2015;

"Whereas the late F. Matthew Smith served the Commonwealth Development Authority with skill, passion, integrity and honor and with the utmost concern and benefit of Commonwealth Development Authority,

and the people of the commonwealth;

"And whereas the board of directors, management and staff of the Commonwealth Development Authority wish to express their appreciation to the late Matthew Smith for his support,

dedication and commitment.

"The board has determined to posthumously award and present the late Matthew Smith the Commonwealth Development Authority meritorious service award," the resolution, signed and approved by the board chair Diego Songao, and other board members said.

Smith passed away of natural

causes at age 49 in his residence on Capital Hill.

He was the producer of *Baptists at Our Barbecue*, a 2004 comedy based on a 1996 novel by his brother, Robert Farrell Smith.

The F. Mathew Smith Law Office is located in San Jose. His partners are CNMI Bar Association president Jennifer Dockter and Mark Scoggins.

CNMI Wildlife Action Plan released for public comment

The CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources' Division of Fish and Wildlife released yesterday the 2015 Wildlife Action Plan for public review and comment. The plan lays out a 10-year strategy for proactive conservation and management of the CNMI's fish and wildlife resources.

The Wildlife Action Plan belongs to CNMI residents across all islands and reflects broad community input. It brings individuals as well as public and private organizations together to work toward shared conservation goals by identifying and recommending conservation actions that participants can implement that will also help them meet their own goals and needs. DFW's own conservation efforts are guided by the WAP.

The WAP has three overarching goals for the 10-year life of the plan:

1. Maintain fish and wildlife populations in sufficient abundance and distribution to meet the needs and values of the people of the CNMI, over the next 10 years and beyond.

2. Protect and manage habitats to meet the needs of fish and wildlife populations.

3. Cultivate conservation commitment to ensure we have the necessary political, social, technical, and financial support to meet our population and habitat goals across all islands.

The 2015 CNMI Wildlife Action Plan is available for download from the DFW website at <http://www.cnmidfw.com/2015wap>. Print copies are available for review at the Saipan DFW office, the Tinian Mayor's Office, the Rota DLNR office, and public libraries on all three islands. The public is invited and encouraged to review and comment on the plan. Comments can be submitted via email to WildlifeActionPlan@cnmidfw.com through Dec. 6, 2015, or in writing to the DFW office:

Division of Fish and Wildlife
P.O. Box 10007
Saipan, MP 96950

For more information contact Conservation Planner Jill Liske-Clark at the email and mailing address above, or by phone (670) 664-6017. (DFW)



Club 88 Island Theme Mural Competition

In conjunction with the opening of our second e-gaming Club 88, Mariana Resort and Spa Club 88 is sponsoring a competition to paint a mural on the exterior wall of the veranda overlooking Mandi Asian Spa and the Pacific Ocean. The winner will be awarded a cash prize of \$1,500 to paint their design and showcase their talents. This competition is open to all local resident artists.

The mural will be painted by the selected artist on an outdoor wall measuring approximately 25 feet long by 20 feet high and will be painted. Paint and materials will be provided by Club 88. Subject material for the mural should be in keeping with the island/ocean theme; for example, ocean; reef; dolphins; sunset, etc.

Interested artists must submit their full-color design by the closing deadline of November 6, 2015. The winning design will be announced November 10, 2015. Designs should be submitted to: Michael Holl, (670) 233-0888; Club88MHoll@gmail.com.



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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

US presidential debates don't need live audiences

This year's presidential debates have succeeded far beyond expectations—for the networks. For the public, not so much.

No one wants to turn one of the fall season's biggest hits—a hybrid of drama, comedy and reality TV—into a national version of those local meetings commonly shown late at night on the public-access TV channel. But presidential debates should strive to inform more than entertain, and on that score they could stand some improvement.

To say this isn't to buy into the self-serving commentary of media critics like Ted Cruz. Nor is it necessary to concede to the comical demands made by several disgruntled Republican candidates after last week's CNBC debate. Making the debates better should be a bipartisan cause.

There is no shortage of suggestions, some more realistic than others. One that could make a big difference: Hold the debates in studios with no live audience. It would keep moderators and candidates alike from playing to the crowd, and it would increase the time candidates have to answer questions, while also removing incentives to dodge questions or score cheap points.

Regardless, any improvements should be judged according to a few guiding principles:

- A debate should be among candidates, not between a candidate and a moderator. There's nothing wrong with a pointed question, and follow-ups are always necessary, but moderators should at all times strive to stay in the background.

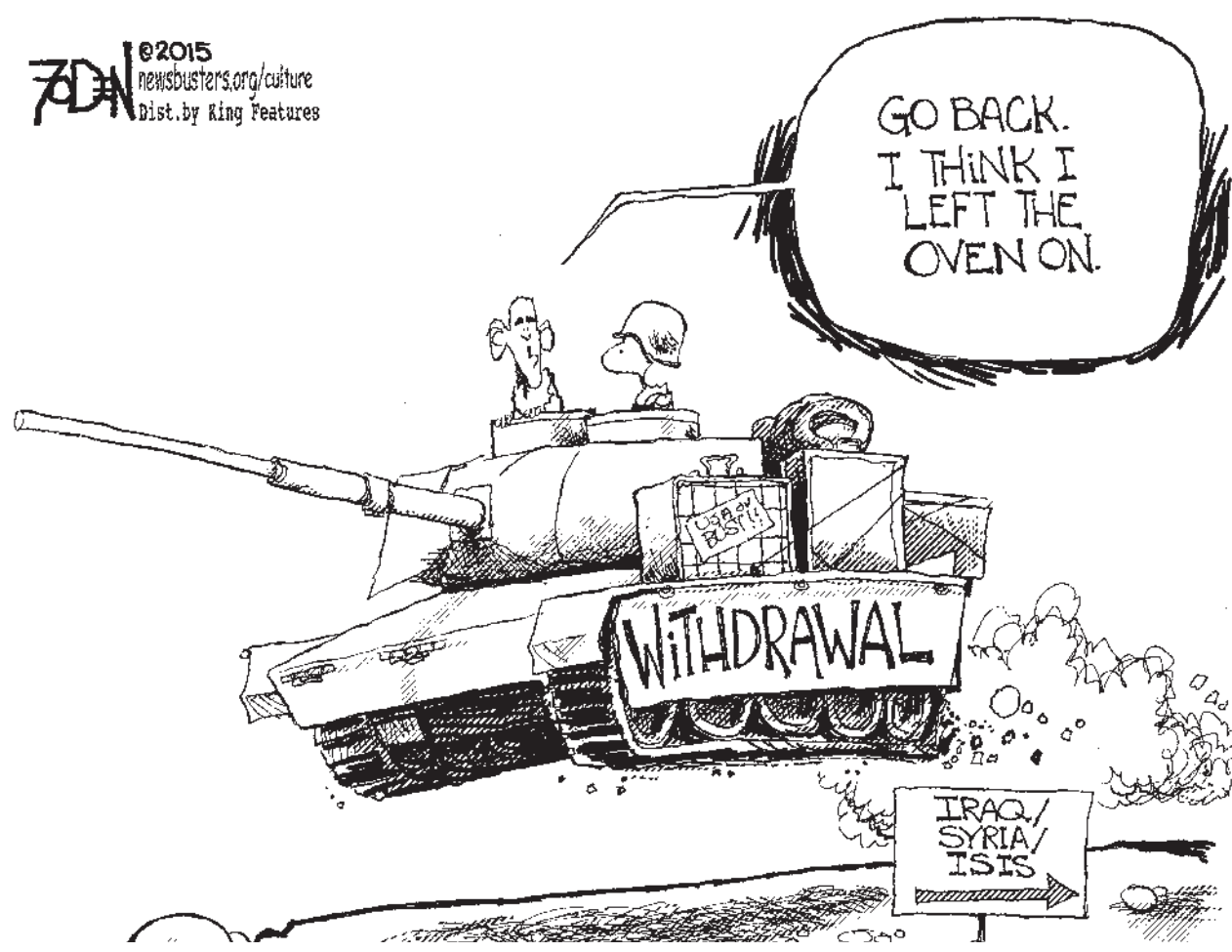
- The networks and the parties should err on the side of inclusion. It's fine for polling to determine eligibility, but once candidates are on the stage, the moderators should be responsible for upholding the principle of equal time as best they can.

- Politics is fair game. Candidates should be asked not only about their plans, but how they would get them done. Incredibly, given Washington's dysfunction and the difficulty that presidents have had enacting their agendas, such questions remain all too rare.

There will always be complaints that this question or that was unfair, and there's no way to completely eliminate grandstanding, from either the candidates or the moderators. Not that you'd want to: It's the possibility of tension that keeps people watching. It's up to the political parties and the news media—not to mention the candidates themselves—to ensure their audience finds the debates engaging and enlightening.

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The forest off my window

Soudelor delivered a two-punch swirl on Saipan and the view off my window, where a forest growth once kept the birds chirping and the wild mango tart, was dismal. Green turned gray. The forest wilted.

With a dab of graying from Champi, we are back to green normal, and doves coo more than they used to, fluttering their wings, oblivious to the next typhoon. Ecological evolution triumphs and Mother Nature is in charge, in spite of the eco-apocalypse of a 5,000-km swath of a forest fire in Indonesia and the garbage patches in several locations around the world.

Now Walt Woodbridge and Korean contractor Chang Yoon Suk says that typhoon is not our foe, termites are. I can relate to that. The untreated wood used in my apartment drips with termite droppings periodically, dancing with the pest control man who bores a hole and squirts chemical to offending places, only to be replaced by another infestation two feet away. The duo informs the public of prefab options that can deal with the termites as well as keep the roof in place.

I take my island paradise for granted. I hosted a Japanese Rotarian on Mactan Island in the Visayas once and sitting under a coconut tree, my guest said, "I spend a year earning to afford a trip like this, to sit under a coconut tree and imagine if the fruit will stay or fall, while you live here all year round, probably not needing to make a tenth of what I earn to get by. You are lucky."

My fellow Rotarians were too polite to contradict the guest, known to damn their dismal fate to be stuck on an overcrowded province in a forsaken island in the middle of a limestone rock formation in salty and sultry Visayas.

A roommate at an Institute in Rizal's *Mi Retiro* Park, Dapitan, Zamboanga del Norte '63 kept saying: "It is all a matter of attitude." The Jesuits' influence relied on reason to attain certitude so we were not too enamored with attitude to gauge sensible matters. He was clear of the effect of attitude on behavior, becoming Pea Eye's solicitor general after a degree in jurisprudence at U.P. Diliman.

The Japanese Rotarian got more mileage out of his two-week vacation in Mactan than I did living there all year round. A matter of attitude. Indeed.

The devastated gray of Mama Gaia at the back of my apartment came up green in a jiffy, saying a lot about the resilience of nature more than it does humans' capacity to survive setbacks.

FEMA recalls assistance it provided to "unqualified" CWs, as if Soudelor went around choosing whom to devastate. "Umm, you are CW so I will spare you the bother!"

A culture of dependence is fostered when folks strut around and inspect the damage before they can determine help. They cow victims into submission to bureaucratic procedures. A month after

By **JAIME VERGARA**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



Soudelor, I commented that volunteers and parents would assist to rebuild a school. The response was: "Oh, no, not until FEMA determines the damage." Eager folks tweedledee'd their thumbs while FEMA walked around with clipboards.

Filipinos were patriotic anti-Spain when the galleon trade used Manila as port, and ignored the Stars and Stripes as it flapped over *Ang Bayan Ko* at Subic & Clark. Even with the rising sun that promised Asian Co-prosperity Sphere, Nippon calling the shots had Pinoy being demure. Unfortunately, Pinoy contrariness cum creativity carried over to Saipan.

After WWII, Pea Eye gained its independence from Uncle Sam, prescribed in the 1935 Constitution. WWII cost a bundle. Pea Eye fought Nippon as a U.S. Commonwealth duly commissioned in 1941 by President Roosevelt to fight with similar bolo-ferocity shown by woolen grunts in Samar at the century turn. Pinoy fighters expected veteran's benefits. Didn't get it.

Congress passed the Rescission Act of 1946 before the Fourth of July that excluded Pinoy veterans with full benefits, and those recognized received piddly with reluctance. Some in the U.S. Congress had the temerity to suggest that the \$200 million given the nationals after the war paid for the cost of their servitude. We came cheap.

My father had a mimeograph machine at his church printing subversive rags against the Japanese. A Nippon lieutenant told him to skip town when his name showed up on the Kempetai list of active U.S. collaborators; otherwise I would have been an orphan. The lieutenant turned out to be a Christian who took his religion above his national worship.

CW's in the CNMI are mostly from the Philippines. Not surprisingly, FEMA is treated as another federal agency to be milked. Uncle Sam spoke with a forked tongue before and its word had not been found reliable. FEMA feigns aches as folks suckle its breasts. SBA does no better; it just released its figures of only 274 approved projects from 8,806 applicants.

The forest on my backyard is green again. White doves chase each other on coco fronds as nature shows it's ahead of humans in the recuperation process while depositors are baffled at the bank why they cannot withdraw their FEMA-issued funds. Must be the termites!

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Suitcase season

As we gird for travel and holiday season, here's an item to heed: Some airlines will be charging for carry-on luggage. Meanwhile, charges for checked baggage are already common these days, and they are reportedly going up in some cases. Everybody likes holiday surprises, of course, but some surprises are better avoided.

There is, of course, a swirling, moving, and constantly changing global galaxy of airline policies and fees. It's a competitive industry, with a lot of dynamics shifting around all the time, so things zig and zag a lot.

The Web has a lot of resources for this stuff. Kayak.com has a good page on airline fees, which includes a well-populated list of links to the appropriate pages for airline sites. And Clark Howard, the ultimate smart shopper, also has useful information at his website, ClarkHoward.com.

Mr. Howard has a sharp pencil. Me, I've just got a dull crayon, but I've got a few general observations to share.

After all, I've got a dull suitcase, too, since I've had some years where I've been on the road for more days and nights than I've had at home. I'll mention a few factors that I've noticed in this whole suitcase and travel and packing thing.

First of all, the market offers a nice array of carry-on sized suitcases. Some of these things used to be sturdy, but heavy, warhorses. I've more recently noticed more and more lightweight models out there. I finally made the switch to a lightweight model.

Suitcases are steeply discounted sometimes. When I find a good

sale, I buy a few, saving a couple for future duty, and giving the others to relatives. Unless you're independently wealthy, suitcases aren't products that are well-suited to being last-minute purchases.

The importance of a good suitcase is pretty obvious for anyone who is traveling, but the "personal item" (purse or briefcase) is something often overlooked. Before I get into that territory, let me brush against the context: Most (not all) of the airlines I'm familiar with allow you, for no fee, to take both a carry-on item (e.g. a small suitcase) and a "personal item" aboard.

The ideal personal item here, at least from my experience, is a soft-sided (e.g. canvas) "attaché" that can do triple-duty as a computer bag, overnight bag, and traveler's goodie bag (for snacks, books, etc.). I've mentioned this realm a few times before because if you find the right bag, it makes life a lot more pleasant when traveling.

The problem is finding the right bag. The market seems to have abandoned us here. The two products that I used to sing praises to are no longer available on the Web.

The only candidates that I've found to fill the void are far more expensive, in the \$300 to \$400 range. I haven't tried them, and I'm not really sure they're perfect substitutes anyway. I think the problem here is that the sweet spot is also a null spot: The ideal size is a little bigger than the average computer bag for office use, but is also noticeably smaller than what Joe Sixpack would want for a travel bag. The Goldilocks factor has, alas, failed us here.

Meanwhile, I've noticed a trend, at least in the mainland, that makes travel a lot easier: the long and steady move toward more casual attire. I remember the day when executives used to pack three suits. I guess that's still done in some circles, but I think that the average situation is a lot less demanding now, which makes packing

By **ED STEPHENS**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com.

His column runs every Friday.



a far easier, and less voluminous, proposition.

As for the East, well, much of it is still more conservative, dark-suit territory. If you're swimming in those circles, you don't need to hear from me about all this stuff. So you can just give me a call during your next fitting from W.W. Chan and we'll meet for high tea in Kowloon. Well, either that or high coffee at McDonald's on Nathan Road.

As for Saipan, well, it's easy to get caught in the middle. I'm not the only person who has hopped a plane to Japan or Korea only to realize that although they're just a few hours from Saipan, they are worlds apart. Whenever someone tells me to "pack accordingly," I feel like saying, "Gee, thanks for the great advice, Pinhead."

Anyway, the big point here, as we roll toward the holidays (whether we're ready or not), is that the airline pricing dynamics seem to be on the move, so it might be a good idea to take a fresh look at the fees you face.

The little point is that if any readers want to recommend a good attaché bag for travel, I'm always happy to get suggestions.

And the final point? Wherever you're going: pack accordingly.

Defining the NMI's future

For many years, I've researched, read, and analyzed the success of nations and what led to their attaining global economic success. It's fascinating how leadership steps in and moved mountains in phenomenal ways. I'm saying if they can do it, so could the NMI.

Indeed, we could engage in contentious debate why it can or can't be done here too. The success rate, albeit difficult, is stunning and has worked in outstanding ways for countries like Japan, Singapore, and Malaysia. None is endowed with natural resources. Neither is the NMI! Japan eventually became the second global economic power!

Visionary leadership stepped in and was determined to make a difference to grant their people opportunities to move forward. Herein lies the difference: equipped with due diligence and energy to fearlessly move the needle of growth forward by taking the plunge!

It's the central idea of being part of the "emerging" nations in the Asia/Pacific rather than settling as a submerged entity drowning helplessly in the turbulent sea of fiscal crisis.

After WWII Japan embraced science and technology as its foundational vehicle to move forward. Two decades later, she reinvaded the entire global village with her products that became brand names everywhere. Hell, how do I miss Toyota? She emerged an island nation while the rest of us took a quick dip into submerged territory! This is where we are for being loose in the way we view progress, coupled with the fear of putting forward our best foot.

Singapore basically did the same in the subsequent education of her people. Entrepreneurship, with aid from the government, was allowed to thrive and blossom. There was the placement of its best people in three layers of leadership all the way down to the community level. Singapore was the envy of the world, though critics weren't too forgiving at the autocratic fashion that it brought herself at par with the global community. How do you dispute grand success?

Work in disorientation: Perhaps my expectations of proactive orderly progress have been a bit too forward as to inadvertently overlook the obvious that not everybody's on the same page. But how long must we absorb indecisions from the "do-nothing" troops?

It's a day wasted in sleepwalk land, half the time hypnagogic, meaning, still sleepy as you stagger out of bed in the morning. Shouldn't our conversations be focused on the logic of getting things done, embracing the right issues by doing them right? Do we even have at least some faint resolve to do it if only to test our creative abilities? Isn't the future of our children sufficient a motivation to unite and prepare the way for them?

If I may illustrate a point: We've been long on rhetoric on indigenous rights but woefully short on programs that address issues requiring realistic definition of the needs of the very people we wish to assist. We have so many departments and offices established for indigenous purposes. Nothing has happened since 1978 to help our people in an organized fashion. It's all hip shots!

I say let's address the future of our people by defining their role up ahead using education as our main vehicle. Let's show them how to move from point "A" to point "B". Sometime a dog and pony show is a necessity.

You may be a part of the system today but you're completely off the mark on the very essence of education in its relations to the future of our people. Please employ humility and step aside when your time has basically gone ahead of your less than useful contribution. You'd be doing our people a favor letting others with greater disposition handle matters in which they are professionally conversant and poised.

Hillside failure: Some 62 percent of people polled across the country say Washington has failed to do its fiduciary duties guarding the public interest.

The same could be said of Imperial Capital Hill here (I Deni') where it has taken a disinterested posture on most everything it has

By **JOHN DELROSARIO**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



undertaken. This includes both the administration and the Legislature. It listens to its dissonant and disoriented self rather than the simple and collected expressions of its people.

Saipan voters shot down casino twice. Legislators came around and unilaterally changed it saying casino is IT! Tinian and Rota chimed in because each is getting \$1 million apiece from the Saipan casino. No wonder the Rota casino never took off and the one on Tinian has been derailed in bureaucratic land. But someone from Rota said casino is a "lucrative global industry." Really? So what-ever happened to your casino? Has it reached its embryonic stage?

Ever read shifts in Reno, Nevada, and Macau? Or let's just keep here: did your Rota casino ever make it to the starting line? So it's cool to suck some more of Saipan generated revenues to scaffold their inability to move things forward? How much longer must you suck our rib cage for your needs as leeches? Isn't it time to replace your blurry-eyed so-called leadership with realistic people with visions?

For once in the 37-year developmental history of the NMI each senatorial district must forcibly limit municipal government expenses to what it could generate locally. This should push politicians to do better than make empty promises time and again at the expense of Saipan taxpayers. For now, please sever the umbilical cord. Enough Is Enough!

We also need our hard-earned taxes, especially these days when "solutions driven" has been driven off elsewhere! Please, no more pretentious hypocrisy, sayu?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Open letter to Public Auditor Mike Pai

Because staff including yourself have chosen to be mum in giving updated information related to *Saipan Tribune's* articles on April 10, 2013, titled "OPA probe NMC, board" and "NMI College Board meeting disappoints faculty, staff," I thought it may be helpful to share the concern shared by others over the lack of updated status report on OPA's probe of NMC and the Board of Regents in this public forum.

OPA's apparent preference to go stealth, low profile, and unexposed reflects a pattern of refusal by OPA to comment on NMC's "probe"—a probe, mind you, that began in 2013, but, as OPA reasoned, because of the ongoing nature of the investigation, which appears to be no different this year, OPA has still not released any information on the status of its investigation on NMC Faculty Senate's no-confidence vote on the college president and the college

board. The concerns raised by the members of the NMC faculty, most of whom are gone two years later and no longer with NMC, are briefly highlighted below.

Two years and seven months have passed today, yet OPA has done absolutely nothing to communicate to the public about its findings—any findings—that would either confirm/affirm the Faculty Senate's no-confidence issues with the college president and the Board of Regents, or reject/deny those concerns that are highlighted below.

OPA's deafening silence by refusing to speak openly and transparently on the issues does not help NMC maintain its standing, nor build public confidence in the board, much less the college's Faculty Senate.

One may well ask, why has this matter of great public concern not

reported out by OPA to the public? OPA's silence is a violation of the spirit of our Open Government Act and the public's right to demand accountability of public institutions, such as OPA, NMC and the NMC Board of Regents. It is also withholding of information the public has the right to know and be informed about its locally and federally funded institution of higher education.

I recall that former House Education chair Roman Benavente revealed back in 2013 that numerous complaints were lodged against NMC and the NMC board with his office, which prompted him to ask for OPA's assistance.


Over two years have passed and, instead of seeing OPA's draft report out for public comment or review, all that we hear and see is that scores of NMC employees have been discontinued, not renewed, or are too frustrated to continue under the present administration and the present Board of Regents leadership. Former employees like Larry Lee, Wil Maui, Cyndi Deleon Guerrero, Kyle Podziewski, Marie Coleman, Ross Manglona, Galvin Guerrero and

See **OPEN LETTER** on Next Page

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Partly sunny with isolated showers.
East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲87° ▼77°


SATURDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲87° ▼77°


SUNDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲87° ▼77°


MONDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲87° ▼77°

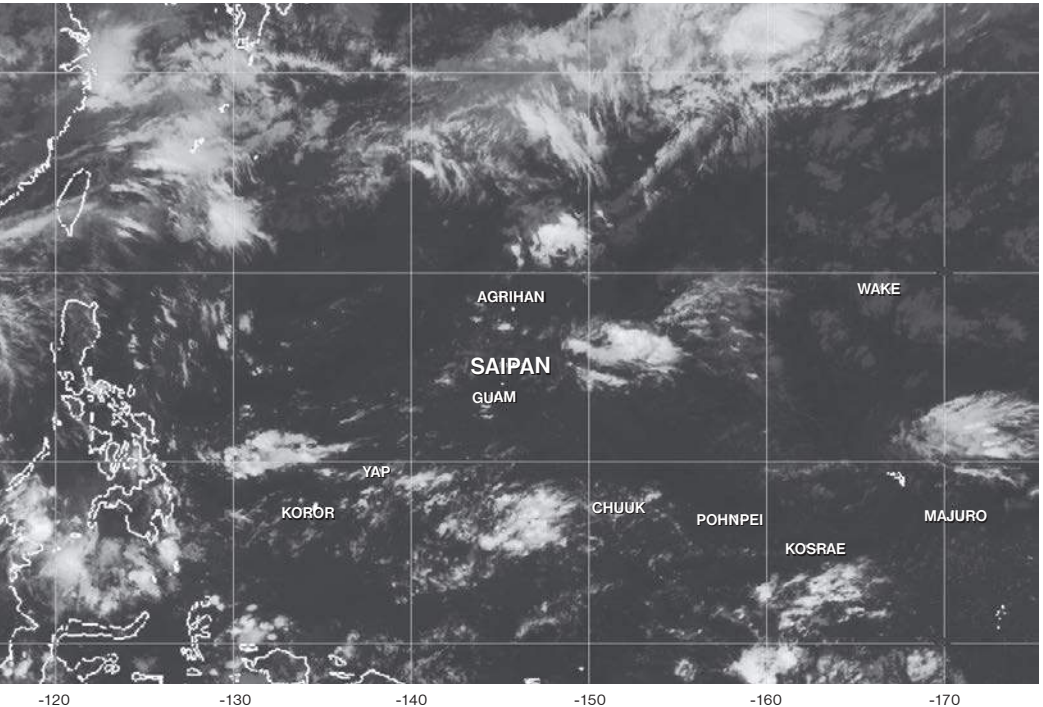
TUESDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image




PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with a trade wind disturbance north of the Marianas are found between 23N and 21N from 145E to 152E. Another trade-wind disturbance east of the Marianas is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms between 17N and 14N from 149E to 155E. A third trade-wind disturbance is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms north of the Marshall Islands between 14N and 10N from 167E to 177E. A near-equatorial trough curves eastward from 3N130E to 1N135E to 7N147E. Low-level convergence north of the trough is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms east-southeast of Yap between 9N and 5N from 141E to 149E. Patchy showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring north of Koror but over Yap within 70 miles of a line from 11N130E to 8N141E. Trade wind convergence is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Kosrae between 4N and 1N from 159E to 167E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 87	▼ 79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 87	▼ 79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 86	▼ 79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 86	▼ 78
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲ 88	▼ 79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 85	▼ 79
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85	▼ 80

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Sunny	▲ 68	▼ 52
Beijing	Ice	▲ 39	▼ 35
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83	▼ 77
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 86	▼ 76
London	Rain	▲ 60	▼ 56
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 71	▼ 52
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲ 91	▼ 75
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 66	▼ 52
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85	▼ 76
New York	Cloudy	▲ 71	▼ 63
Osaka	Sunny	▲ 76	▼ 58
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 66	▼ 57
Pusan	Windy	▲ 68	▼ 54
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲ 70	▼ 53
Salem	Cloudy	▲ 55	▼ 42
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 63	▼ 51
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 67	▼ 47
Tokyo	Sunny	▲ 72	▼ 54
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 74	▼ 60



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
3:28 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet
9:44 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
4:26 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
11:04 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:15 AM	5:46 PM
Saturday	6:15 AM	5:46 PM
Sunday	6:15 AM	5:46 PM
Monday	6:16 AM	5:46 PM
Tuesday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	1:42 AM	2:16 PM
Saturday	2:29 AM	2:55 PM
Sunday	3:15 AM	3:33 PM
Monday	4:02 AM	4:11 PM
Tuesday	4:49 AM	4:51 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2015											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN					
UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily			UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily		
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota			UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7		
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6			UA2920	12:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota		
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily			UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily		
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily			UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily		
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)					
UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7			UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6		
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN					
UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7			UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL297	4:25pm	7:15pm	Daily			DL298	10:35am	3:15pm	Daily		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1			7C3402	8:45am	2:15pm	3, 5, 6		
OZ626	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7		
OZ628	3:50am	7:40am	Daily			OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7		
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 3, 6, 7			OZ625	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	4, 5			OZ627	9:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily		
7C3401	3:15pm	7:35pm	3, 5, 6			7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily		
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7								
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7			OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN					
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7			MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6		
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN					
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6			3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN			UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM		
OZ626/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			UA190/2929	10:00am	9:20pm	3 via GUM		
UA2924/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN		
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA2924/183	4:15am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM			OZ702/627	12:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN		
UA2924/183	4:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA184/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM			UA184/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1 via GUM-Rota		
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM			UA184/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5038/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM			UA184/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5038/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM			UA184/2925	11:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM		
UA5072/191	9:50pm	7:20am+1	1, 6 via GUM			UA184/2920	11:59pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota		
						UA184/2927	11:59pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM		
						UA184/2929	11:59pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM		
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN		
OZ626/721	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
OZ628/721	3:50am	12:50am	Daily via ICN			OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN		
UA2924/159	4:15am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			2D8010	7:25pm	2:35am+1	Nov 1, 6, 11, 15, 20, 25, 29, Dec 4, 9, 13, 18, 23, 27		
UA2922/159	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM								
UA2921/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM			UA116/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		
2D8009	1:55pm	5:15pm	Nov 1, 6, 11, 15, 20, 25, 29, Dec 4, 9, 13, 18, 23, 27			UA116/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM		
						UA116/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota		
UA2920/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM			UA116/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		
						UA116/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

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9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM		

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thank you for the hospitality

My name is Matt Branch and I am one of the organizers and chaperones of the Hiroshima Johoku High School eleventh grade school trip to Saipan. Hiroshima

Johoku is an all-boys junior and senior high school located in Hiroshima City, Japan, and has approximately 1,200 students.

After a successful program

to Saipan in November 2014, it once again gives me great pleasure to thank the people of Saipan for the extremely warm welcome given to the 28 11th

grade students during their school trip to Saipan last month.

In particular, I must say a special thank you to teachers and students of Marianas Baptist Academy for allowing us to visit their school and spend the day with them. Since our return to Hiroshima, many of the students have remarked how much fun

they had during the day and have expressed their desire to keep in contact with their "MBA friends."

On behalf of all our staff and students, I would also like to express my gratitude to Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang and the staff of his office for supporting our program and Mr. Ikuo Yoshizawa, of Saipan Business Language Insti-

tute, for coordinating the program.

In October 2016, approximately 120 of our students will be visiting Saipan. I am looking forward to another successful program and the deepening of ties between Hiroshima and Saipan.

Matt Branch
Hiroshima Johoku Gakuen

OPEN LETTER

From Page 11

others have all been taken off NMC's employment roster list and no longer listed as active employees of NMC under the present administration's control.

The NMC Faculty Senate report that hit the newsstand in 2012 was chronicled and delivered to the media, the NMC president and the NMC board and are identified below as a reminder to OPA. These faculty concerns included:

A. Fiscal mismanagement and abuse of power

1. \$200,000 spent on travel
2. Questionable reimbursements by college official(s)
3. Sole-source contracts
4. Application of HRO procedures for off-island recruitment

B. Human resources policies and procedures

1. Micromanagement in hiring procedures (e.g., interview committee)
2. Questionable involvement of hiring faculty and personnel

3. Faculty contract non-renewal without cause
4. Inequitable salaries in reference to new hires versus experienced employees and no previous communication on the planned proration rate for faculty prior to them teaching in the summer faculty; faculty found out after they received their pay

5. Contract terms and conditions dishonored
6. Special term and condi-

tion for one employee contract on leave

C. Violation of NMC procurement and CNMI law

1. Government-issued vehicle and unauthorized private use
2. Unethical conduct/conflict of interest of sole-source contracts

3. Equipment purchase without RFP
4. Unethical conduct/leadership

1. Interference and manipulation of student registration process for personal gain
2. Interference with HRO hiring processes to benefit personal acquaintances

3. FERPA violation—request and received student academic information without prior approval
4. Preferential treatment of certain faculty in regards to leave requested

5. Possible fraud with federally funded program (CACG) to allow enrollment of family member
6. Plagiarism by college official in ACCJC accreditation report

7. Directing governance bodies on how to vote
8. Increasing class capacities without input from faculty with no regard to current facility conditions

E. Accreditation related concerns

1. Failure to address WASC concern in filling CFO position and IT director
2. Dissolving of BAFC and then reviving it—suspicious and untrustworthy
3. Report to Board of Re-

gents on SOE's Senior Visiting Team concerns was incorrect

4. ACCJC report possibly plagiarized from GCC report
5. Lack of focus on Supplemental Recommendation #2—participation of constituencies on shared governance

- F. Clarification of roles of shared governance (Reported at College Council, 11.2.12)
1. Autonomy of constituent groups removed

- G. Update the Institutional Excellence Guide (Reported at College Council, 11.2.12)

H. Proposed board resolution to rescind HR policies (Reported at College Council, 11.2.12)

It was reported then that 82.6 percent of faculty members in attendance at the Dec. 14, 2012, Faculty Assembly gave a "vote of no-confidence" in your leadership at the college while 8.5 percent did not support the vote of no confidence and 8.5 percent abstained from taking a position. Bottom line is that 90 percent of those present at the Faculty Assembly registered their displeasure with the present adminis-

tration and the present Board of Regents, save former faculty senate vice president Cynthia DeLeon Guerrero (Cyndy) over the issues/concerns identified above.

For accountability and transparency, I urge the OPA and Mike Pai to release the long-standing report that began in 2013. I am positive this review/investigation is complete and the public deserves to know OPA's objective findings of fact and conclusions based on those facts. Anything less is unacceptable!

In celebration of College

Month proclaimed by acting governor Ralph DLG Torres, let's all embrace greater accountability and transparency in public institution in order to empower the governed in the college governance and in public governance in general.

Accountability and transparency are also expectations by the U.S. Accrediting Commission and the U.S. Department of Education on federal programs.

Jonn Santos
Koblerville, Saipan

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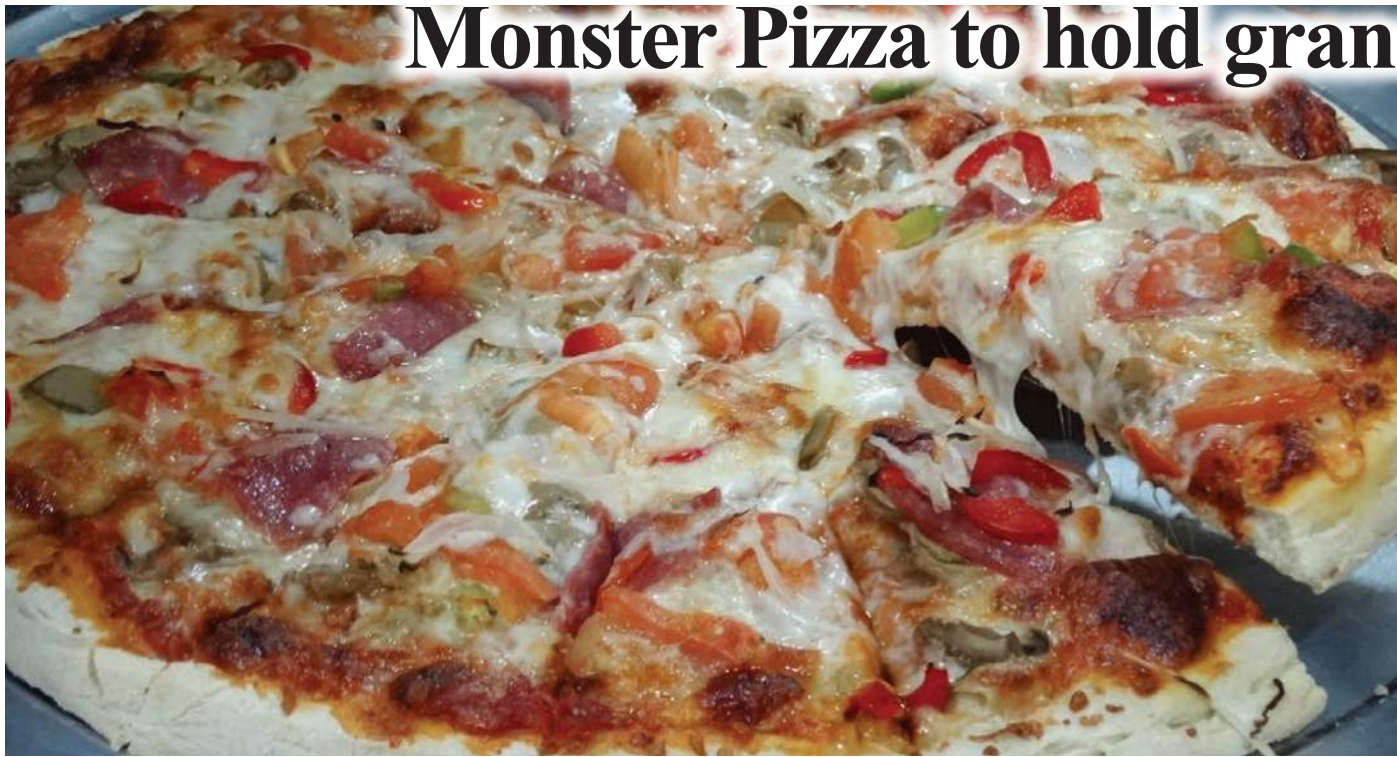
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The restaurant serves up various sized pizzas with unique toppings and customizable options not found anywhere else on the island.

DAISY DEMAPAN

Monster Pizza to hold grand opening on Nov. 8

By DAISY DEMAPAN
daisy_demapan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After a weeklong soft opening, Monster Pizza Pub's long-awaited grand opening will be held this Sunday, Nov. 8, officially introducing Saipan's pizza lovers to what company owner Tom Liu described as a gourmet pizza experience.

Monster Pizza first opened at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino in 2004 but now calls its Garapan location at the Alter City Group building home.

The restaurant serves up various sized pizzas with unique toppings and customizable options not found anywhere else on the island. Toppings such as lobster chunks, seafood, pepperoni, sausage, salami, jalapeno peppers, capers, olives, mushrooms, and extra cheese

are some of its offerings.

Liu said the restaurant's grand opening on Sunday will be from 4pm to 10pm and is open to everyone.

When asked why he opened Monster Pizza on Saipan, Liu shared that many people on Saipan enjoyed the restaurant's options every time they visited Tinian.

The pizza restaurant's menu currently features large, medium, small, and single size pizzas with side orders of garlic bread, calamari, spaghetti, and fried chicken.

The restaurant also offers halal pizza options.

Liu said they plan to eventually expand their menu options.

If you'd like to find out more about their gourmet options, check out their grand opening or call 233-9999.



The Gourmet Pizza Restaurant



Company president Tom Liu and general manager Scott Liu of Monster Pizza Pub invite the community to their grand opening on Nov. 8 at their restaurant in Garapan.

DAISY DEMAPAN

GRAND OPENING

NOVEMBER 8th 2015

Open Daily: 5p.m.-10p.m.



ACG Building Ground Floor Garapan, Saipan

Tel: 233-9999

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

FESTPAC performers meeting on Nov. 9

The CNMI FESTPAC Programs Sub-Committee will hold a meeting with all registered and interested performers on Monday, Nov. 9, at 5pm at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan. Performers who met earlier this year with the sub-committee should also attend, according to Sub-Committee chair Gordon Marciano. The 12th Festival of Pacific Arts will be held from May 22 to June 4, 2016, in Guam. A mandatory meeting for all CNMI delegates, including those in the categories of literary arts; demonstrations/exhibition; and forums, workshops, seminars of will be scheduled for later this month. Inquiries may be directed to Feofaaki McMahon at the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture at fe_mcmahon@yahoo.com or 670.322.9982/3. (PR)

Marriage Encounter Weekend set

The Marriage Encounter Weekend is a constructive and personal experience offering married couples an opportunity to learn a technique of loving communication that they can use for the rest of their lives. The next CNMI M.E. Weekend is on Nov. 20-22, 2015 at the Kanoa Resort Saipan in Susupe. The cost is \$100 per couple and includes two nights' accommodation, five meals, and all materials. Space is limited to 25 couples. Submit an application form and payment (checks payable to Worldwide Marriage Encounter) to Kanae Quinn at cnmime@gmail.com or sign up online at <http://goo.gl/forms/Ftnk2p8XS>. (PR)

Benavente prods action on bill to fund paving of Obyan Road

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Roman Benavente (Ind-Saipan) hopes a bill he wrote to fund the paving of impassable roads in Obyan would move out of the committee soon.

Benavente said he introduced the bill on Jan. 30, and has checked with the Department of Finance on the availability of the funds in Business units 4961M and 4961N.

"This is a need," Benavente told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

House Local Bill 19-05 would appropriate \$780,000 in lapsed funds from Saipan Local No. 18-17. Benavente said the bill has been sitting in the committee and has not

been entertained.

A total of \$360,000 goes to the paving of Obyan Road; 40,000 for the repair and upgrade of the San Antonio Youth Center; \$30,000 for the repair and upgrade of San Vicente Basketball and tennis/volleyball court; and \$350,000 for Precinct V, for the paving of Kannat Tabla Drive.

"Nothing against the chairman of Ways and Means... but there are people who have been requesting and asking that the road be paved and fixed," Benavente said, noting pressing issues in these precincts.

According to him, the funding would be a solution to the "band-aid" approach of repatching roads repeatedly.

Skywalker donates two statues of Ānimu

Skywalker Communications donated two statues of Ānimu, the CNMI mascot that symbolizes strength, solidarity, unity, hard work, and perseverance, to the Office of the Governor on Tuesday this week.

The statues were presented to acting governor Ralph DLG Torres.

According to Skywalker managing director Dr. Hu Bo, "the sheer level of commitment of the many individuals to restore" the island of Saipan in the wake of Typhoon Soudelor "is a true example of being 'CNMI Strong, Saipan Strong.'"

Typhoon Soudelor ripped through the island of Saipan on Aug. 2, 2015, causing injuries and destroying homes and the island's infrastructure. True to their nature, the people of Saipan came together immediately to start the restoration of



Skywalker Communications' Kiki Chen presents the two statues of Ānimu to acting governor Ralph DLG Torres. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

their island home.

Since Typhoon Soudelor, the recovery process on Saipan has not been easy. Ninety days have passed and the hardworking men and women from differ-

ent agencies—both government and private—are still working to assist families whose homes and lives have been affected, restore power and water, and clean up the debris left behind.

"The recovery process is not easy and takes a huge toll on everyone, but every day we wake up, we see that there are improvements made," said Bo. (PR)



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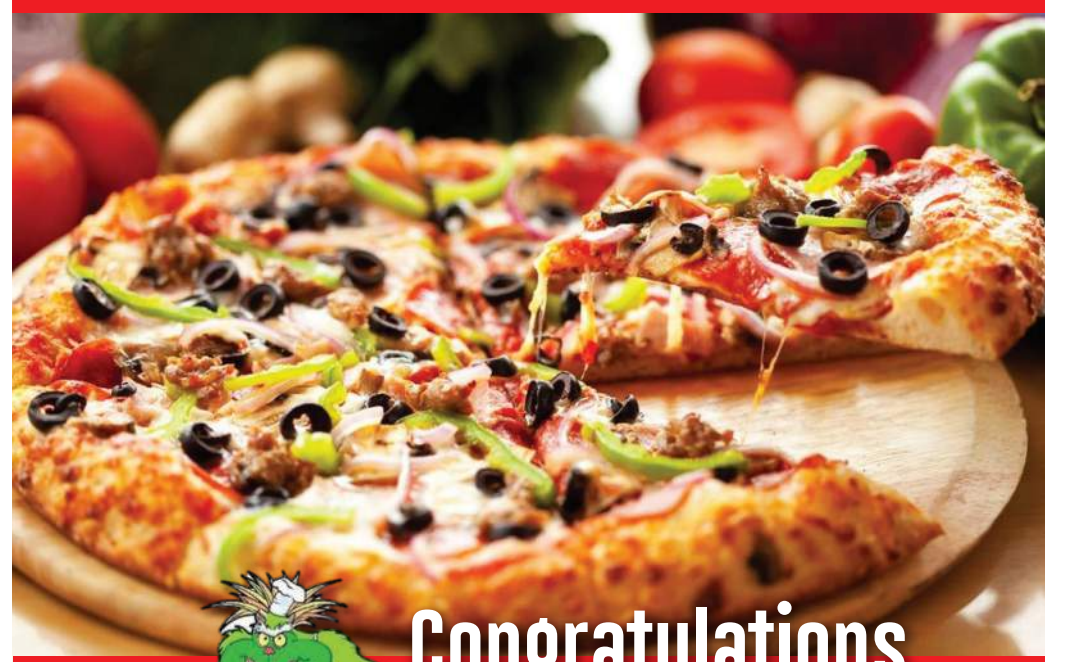
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- 🌀 Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 202 🌀
- 🌀 670-484-5821 🌀
- 🌀 legendrealtycnmi@gmail.com 🌀

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Delta Air Lines contributes a \$500 travel voucher to be used in the Silent Auction of the upcoming Wish Night on Nov. 13, 2015, at Naked Fish Bar & Grill.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

G4S donates \$500 cash for the upcoming Wish Night on Nov. 13, 2015, at Naked Fish Bar & Grill.

Generous sponsors donate to Wish Night fundraiser

Bridge Capital LLC, Delta Air Lines, and G4S have graciously donated to the upcoming Wish Night on Friday, Nov. 13, 2015, at Naked Fish Bar & Grill.

Bridge Capital LLC is generously donating \$600 cash as well as staff assistance for the event. Delta Air Lines contributed a \$500 travel voucher to be used in the Silent Auction along with several logo items, while G4S funded \$500 cash.

Triple J Enterprises will donate an RCA 50" Smart TV for the silent auction in addition to providing Certified Angus Beef for the menu.

The 2015 Wish Night promises to be a special event. Local chefs Zen Tomokane and Inas Hocog from the Hyatt Regency Saipan, a major Make-A-Wish partner, are teaming up with Naked Fish on Wish Night to create a select menu.

Wish Night's doors open at 5:30pm at which time Titan Imports and R&J Liquors will have a one-hour open cocktail bar available from 5:30pm to 6:30pm with your favorite spirits: Chivas Regal, Absolut Vodka, Hayman's Gin, Avion Tequila, and Jamaican Rum. Titan and R&J will also offer two silent auction prizes.

Other raffle and Silent Auction items include an iPhone6 from Docomo Pacific, room night stays from the Fiesta Resort & Spa and Kanoa Resort, a Thanksgiving and Christmas package from Herman's Modern Bakery, wines from Commonwealth Industrial Supply, gift certificates from Revolving Restaurant 360 and Natural Nail Spa, three-month memberships from Gold's Gym Saipan, tours from Marianas Trekking, and much more!

Tickets are limited and are available for sale now at the Naked Fish Bar & Grill in Susupe and Gold's Gym Saipan in Chinatown. Tickets are \$50 per person. (PR)

Congratulations



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Saipan, MP 96950
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Fax: (670) 233-4999

Tinian Project Office
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Nation

'Hero' officer staged suicide, embezzled from youth program



AP

This undated file photo provided by the Fox Lake Police Department shows Lt. Charles Joseph Gliniewicz. Authorities will announce Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2015, that the northern Illinois police officer whose shooting death led to a massive manhunt in September killed himself, an official briefed on the crime investigation says.

FOX LAKE, ILL. (AP)—For weeks, investigators said they were searching for the killers of a small-town police officer known as "G.I. Joe." Thousands attended the funeral of Fox Lake Police Lt. Charles Joseph Gliniewicz. Many lauded him as a hero, the latest law enforcer to die at a time when police feel under attack.

But after an intense and costly manhunt for three phantom suspects came up empty, investigators realized he was something else: A small-time embezzler, who meticulously staged his death to make it look like he was slain in the line of duty.

In fact, the 30-year police veteran killed himself on Sept. 1 because his theft of thousands of dollars from a youth program was about to be exposed, authorities revealed Wednesday.

"Gliniewicz committed the ultimate betrayal," announced Lake County Major Crimes Task Force Commander George Filenko, who endured blistering questions from skeptical journalists about his handling of the two-month investigation. "We completely believed from day one that this was a homicide."

Recovered text messages and other records now show Gliniewicz embezzled from the village's Police Explorer program for seven years, spending the money on mortgage payments, travel expenses, gym memberships, adult websites and loans to friends, Filenko said.

"We have determined this staged suicide was the end result of extensive criminal acts that Gliniewicz had been committing," he said.

Filenko said he could not reveal more details about these crimes because "the investigation strongly suggests criminal activity on the part of at least two other individuals."

The revelation shocked people in Fox Lake, a village of 10,000 about 50 miles north of Chicago where the 52-year-old married father of four had long been a role model.

"He was a great guy. I looked up to him. I am really upset about this. It really opens your eyes up," said Tim Pederson, 22, who was an explorer under Gliniewicz and now works as a corrections officer.

Minutes before he died, Gliniewicz radioed that he was chasing three suspicious men into a swampy area. Backup officers followed a trail of equipment to the Army veteran's body, about 50 yards from his squad car.

The first bullet from his handgun had struck his cell phone and ballistic vest. The second pierced his upper chest. His head was scraped and bruised, although the coroner said that could have been intentional. The swampy terrain was otherwise undisturbed, and his gun wasn't found for more than an hour, even though it was less than three feet from the body, Filenko said.

By then, an intense manhunt had begun and was growing quickly, with hundreds of officers searching houses, cabins and even boats on area lakes. Helicopters with heat-sensing scanners and K-9 units scoured the area for days. Some 50 suburban Chicago police departments and sheriff's offices assisted, racking up more than \$300,000 in overtime and other costs, according to an analysis the Daily Herald published in early October.

More than 100 investigators stayed on the case for weeks, even after questions arose. The vague description Gliniewicz had radioed in—two white men and a black man—didn't help. No one was ever arrested.

More than 100 people submitted DNA for tests that ultimately found nothing, Filenko said. Asked Wednesday whether that evidence will now be destroyed, Filenko said he didn't know.

One hint was made public relatively quickly: The Lake County coroner, Dr. Thomas Rudd, announced on Sept. 9 that Gliniewicz was killed by a "single devastating" shot to his chest, and that he couldn't rule out suicide or an accident. Filenko responded angrily that releasing such details put "the entire case at risk."

Gliniewicz's family had dismissed the suggestion of suicide. He "never once" thought of taking his own life, and was excited about his retirement plans, his son D.J. Gliniewicz insisted.

Incriminating texts and Facebook messages Gliniewicz sent tell a different story, revealing his increasing anxiety after Fox Lake hired its first professional administrator, Anne Marrin. She began auditing all the village departments, including the Explorer program.

Gliniewicz deleted the messages, but investigators recovered them, and released some of them verbatim on Wednesday, without identifying whom he sent them to.

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Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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ACROSS THE NATION**Oklahoma woman charged in parade crash that killed 4**

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—A woman accused of running a red light and purposely driving around a barricade and over a police motorcycle before crashing into spectators at Oklahoma State University's homecoming parade was formally charged Wednesday with four counts of second-degree murder and 46 counts of felony assault. Payne County District Attorney Laura Thomas filed formal charges against 25-year-old Adacia Chambers of Stillwater. Each murder count is punishable by at least 10 years and up to life in prison. Chambers has remained jailed in Stillwater on \$1 million bond since the Oct. 24 crash that left four people dead and at least 46 others hurt, including many children. A judge also has ordered a psychological evaluation for Chambers.

4 stabbed, attacker killed at California university

MERCED, Calif. (AP)—A male college student burst into a morning class at a California university with a hunting knife Wednesday and may have killed his intended victim if not for the heroic intervention of a construction worker who ran into the room to break up the attack. The construction worker and three others were injured,

but all are expected to survive. The alleged assailant, described as a college student in his 20s, was shot and killed by campus police as he fled the scene at the University of California, Merced. Two of the injured had to be airlifted to nearby hospitals, and the other two were treated on campus. Authorities didn't release the name of the assailant or his victims.

Rubio says he'll release charge card records in coming weeks

MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP)—GOP presidential candidate Marco Rubio said Wednesday he'll release in the next few weeks all of the statements detailing his use of an American Express card he shared with the Republican Party of Florida. Rubio, a former speaker of the Florida House, had the party-issued card from February 2005 to November 2008. During his successful 2010 bid for U.S. Senate, news broke that Rubio had charged items such as grocery bills, plane tickets for his wife and repairs to the family minivan to the card. His spokesman, Alex Conant, said Wednesday that those expenses were for party business, and that the state GOP paid them. Rubio says he paid for any personal expenses. The statements from late 2006 to late 2008 are now public, but those from 2005 and most of 2006 are not.



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HTC Android: From the home screen go to, settings, (more networks) mobile network, network mode. Select "auto connect" or the mode where LTE is present.

Samsung Android: From the home screen go to, settings, mobile network, network mode. Select "auto connect" with LTE.



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COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for **PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) RUNWAY VACUUM SWEEPER** to the FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, SAIPAN, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP No. 3-69-0002-80, will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *“Procurement and Delivery of One (1) Runway Vacuum Sweeper to the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan, CNMI, AIP No. 3-69-0002-80”,* and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2015**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general, consists of the procurement and delivery of one (1) brand new manually operated runway vacuum sweeper for the Saipan International Airport designed especially for use in cleaning pavements to remove debris, dirt and dust from routed cracks of the pavement, all in accordance with the specifications.

A CD-Rom containing the contract documents including specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)** for each set of documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The procurement is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for procurement and delivery in its entirety shall be **THREE HUNDRED (300) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages of **FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)** shall be assessed the awarded bidder for each calendar day the completion of the delivery is delayed beyond the completion date without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are “responsive and responsible.” This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be “responsive or responsible”, their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, **10:00 a.m., Friday, November 6, 2015**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 60-25 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this Federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: October 21, 2015



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for **PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) RUNWAY VACUUM SWEEPER** to the TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, TINIAN, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP No. 3-69-0011-25, will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *“Procurement and Delivery of One (1) Runway Vacuum Sweeper to the Tinian International Airport, Tinian, CNMI, AIP No. 3-69-0011-25”,* and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2015**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general, consists of the procurement and delivery of one (1) brand new manually operated runway vacuum sweeper for the Tinian International Airport designed especially for use in cleaning pavements to remove debris, dirt and dust from routed cracks of the pavement, all in accordance with the specifications.

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The procurement is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

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A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, **10:00 a.m., Friday, November 6, 2015**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

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All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 60-25 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this Federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: October 21, 2015

Asia



ASIAN BRIEFS

Taiwan’s Ma wants China’s Xi to ease island’s isolation

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) Taiwan’s president said Thursday he hopes this weekend’s historic meeting with his Chinese counterpart will help ease the Beijing-imposed diplomatic isolation of the island, which is now officially recognized by just 22 countries. President Ma Ying-jeou also told reporters at a news conference that his meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping is not intended to affect the outcome of Taiwan’s January elections. Ma’s ruling Nationalist Party has been trailing in polls. “The object of our decision is not the next election,” Ma said. “It’s the happiness of the next generation.” Saturday’s meeting in Singapore is the first between the leaders of the two formerly bitter Cold War foes since Taiwan split from mainland China during the Chinese civil war in 1949. It’s being hailed as a historical watershed, though both sides have said there will be no formal agreements signed or joint statements issued.

Myanmar’s Suu Kyi eyes post ‘above the president’

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Myanmar’s Aung San Suu Kyi said Thursday that if her opposition party wins historic polls

this weekend she will take a post “above the president” to circumvent a constitutional ban that blocks her from the presidency. In a wide-ranging news conference, the Nobel laureate said repeatedly that she has a plan which she declined to reveal that would allow her to lead the country from behind the scenes. Suu Kyi is constitutionally barred from the presidency because her late husband was British and her two sons hold foreign passports. The 70-year-old opposition leader looked relaxed as she fielded dozens of questions from reporters at her lakeside villa and expressed confidence that if her party wins the polls, as it is expected to, she will lead the next government.

US, Amnesty criticize Maldives state of emergency

MALE, Maldives (AP)—The United States, Amnesty International and the main opposition party sharply criticized a state of emergency declared by the government of the Maldives, expressing concern it might lead to a new crackdown on dissent. The emergency act on Wednesday follows an explosion on the president’s boat and the discoveries of a bomb and weapons. It gives the military and police powers to enter and search homes without warrants

and make arrests virtually at will. Protests, labor strikes and travel by citizens between the Indian Ocean archipelago’s many islands are forbidden during the 30 days the measure will be enforced. The Maldives has been tense since a Sept. 28 blast on the president’s speedboat and a subsequent series of arrests of people, including Vice President Ahmed Adeeb, on suspicion of involvement in the explosion.

Pentagon chief visiting aircraft carrier in South China Sea

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—In a symbolic swipe at China’s muscular moves in the South China Sea, U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter was flying Thursday onto an American aircraft carrier in the disputed waterway. Carter, who was in Malaysia for two days of talks with Asian defense ministers, is using the visit to the USS *Theodore Roosevelt* to amplify the U.S. view that China is making excessive claims that nearly all of the South China Sea as its territory. Carter also was signaling that the U.S. will keep a strong naval presence in the region in support of nations seeking to preserve stability. He was to fly aboard the carrier in a V-22 Osprey from a base in the east Malaysian state of Sabah, which is situated on the northern portion of Borneo.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

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E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for **PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) RUNWAY VACUUM SWEEPER** to the BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA AIRPORT, ROTA, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP No. 3-69-0003-24, will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *“Procurement and Delivery of One (1) Runway Vacuum Sweeper to the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport, Rota, CNMI, AIP No. 3-69-0003-24”,* and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2015**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

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FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: October 21, 2015

World

Bomb may have downed Russian jet, US, UK officials say

Mexico supreme court opens door to recreational pot use

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexico’s Supreme Court ruled Wednesday that growing, possessing and smoking marijuana for recreation is legal under the right to freedom.

The measure was approved in 4-1 vote on the five-justice panel, backing the argument that smoking marijuana is covered under the right of “free development of personality.”

At this point, the ruling covers only the plaintiffs in a single case, a group of four people wanting to form a pot club.

The ruling did not approve the sale or commercial production of marijuana nor does it imply a general legalization. But if the court rules the same way on five similar petitions, it would then establish the precedent to change the law and allow general recreational use.

A similar process led to the court’s recent ruling that Mexican laws prohibiting same-sex marriage are unconstitutional. “No one has said at all that marijuana is harmless. It is a drug and, as such, it causes damage,” said Justice Arturo Zaldivar, who wrote the majority opinion. “What is being resolved here is that total prohibition is a disproportionate measure.”

At the same time, the ruling will help legalization measures being written in Congress, said Moy Schwartz-

man, one of the lawyers for the plaintiffs.

“They’re noting this case and using it in their favor to present a law that will be in agreement and will protect people’s rights,” Schwartzman said. “In Mexico, this is a political theme. But the ruling gives importance to human rights, in this case liberty.”

President Enrique Pena Nieto, via his Twitter account, said he recognizes and will respect the ruling, adding that he has given his government orders to explain to Mexicans the scope of the ruling.

“This will open up the debate over the best regulation for inhibiting drug consumption, a public health issue,” he wrote. “Mexico has promoted in international forums ... broadening the discussion.”

Zaldivar said Wednesday’s ruling would forbid smoking marijuana in front of others without their consent. It is unclear whether public consumption, even by the few people covered by the case, could still be regulated under public nuisance codes as alcohol is. For example, drinking in the street is forbidden in many parts of Mexico.

“We have to see what limits will be,” said Health Secretary Mercedes Juan, referring to maximum allowed quantities and where or how consumption would be allowed.

LONDON (AP)—British and U.S. officials said Wednesday they have information suggesting the Russian jetliner that crashed in the Egyptian desert may have been brought down by a bomb, and Britain said it was suspending flights to and from the Sinai Peninsula indefinitely.

Intercepted communications played a role in the tentative conclusion that the Islamic State group’s Sinai affiliate planted an explosive device on the plane, said a U.S. official briefed on the matter. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he wasn’t authorized to discuss intelligence matters publicly.

The official and others said there had been no formal judgment rendered by the CIA or other intelligence agencies, and that forensic evidence from the blast site, including the airplane’s black box, was still being analyzed.

The official added that intelligence analysts don’t believe the operation was ordered by Islamic State leaders in Raqqa, Syria. Rather, they believe that if it

was a bomb, it was planned and executed by the Islamic State’s affiliate in the Sinai, which operates autonomously.

Other officials cautioned that intercepted communications can sometimes be misleading and that it’s possible the evidence will add up to a conclusion that there was no bomb.

British Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond said there was a “significant possibility” the crash was caused by a bomb, and Britain was suspending flights to and from the Sinai resort of Sharm el-Sheikh indefinitely.

After a meeting of the Brit-

ish government’s crisis committee, COBRA, Hammond said Britain was advising its citizens not to go on vacation to Sharm el-Sheikh, which is visited by hundreds of thousands of Britons a year.

Meanwhile, Russian and Egyptian investigators said Wednesday that the cockpit voice recorder of the Metrojet Airbus 321-200 had suffered substantial damage in the weekend crash that killed 224 people. Information from the flight data

recorder has been successfully copied and handed over to investigators, the Russians added.

Prime Minister David Cameron’s office said British aviation experts had been sent to Sharm el-Sheikh, where the flight originated, to assess security before British flights there would be allowed to resume.

Several British flights due to leave Sharm el-Sheikh for the U.K. Wednesday were grounded, leaving hundreds of tourists stranded.

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP NO.: RFP 16-DOF/REV-008

SUBMISSION DATE: DECEMBER 04, 2015

TIME: 10:00AM

**“OFFICE SPACE RENTAL FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE,
DIVISION OF REVENUE AND TAXATION”**

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE OBTAINED ON OR AFTER **NOVEMBER 06, 2015** AT THE DIVISION OF REVENUE AND TAXATION, CENTRAL OFFICE, DANDAN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 24, 2015 AT 10:00 A.M., LOCAL TIME AT THE DIVISION OF REVENUE AND TAXATION, DANDAN.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ **LARRISA C. LARSON**
SECRETARY OF FINANCE

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**
DIRECTOR, P&S

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547
Fax: (670) 234-9537
ATTORNEY FOR Petitioner

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE COMMONWEALTH
OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS**

In the Matter	CIVIL ACTION
of the Estate of	NO. 15-0156
GABRIEL D.	
DELA CRUZ,	
Deceased.	

NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation has filed a Petition for Letters of Administration upon the Estate of Gabriel D. Dela Cruz, Deceased; and that the said Petition will be heard by the Court on December 15, 2015, at the hour of 1:30pm.

Notice is also given to all heirs of and persons having claims against the Estate of Gabriel D. Dela Cruz, Deceased, and to all persons claiming an interest in the said Estate, that they shall file such claims with the Clerk of this Court within sixty (60) days from the first publication of this Notice. Copies of such claims should be provided to Michael A. White, Esq., The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, P.O. Box 5222 CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950, Attorney for Petitioner. All claims not so filed shall be forever barred.

DATED: November 2, 2015

/s/
Clerk of Court

Florence Erlet and Jerry Hermenio Smith
PO Box 506171
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 898-3183

Pro se

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

In Re The Matter Of The	FCD GU CIVIL
Petition To Appoint	ACTION
General Guardianship For:	NO. 15-0509

N.A. (d.o.b. 2/21/2004)

Minor Child

By:
**Florence Erlet and
Jerry Hermenio Smith**

Petitioners

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on 12/10/2015, at 10:30AM in Courtroom 205A, before Honorable Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 28th day of October, 2015.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/
By: Deputy Clerk of Court

Pacific Biomedical Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 502478, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670)288-0566 - Fax:
(670)234-2618

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

- Biomedical Tech./Electrical, Maintenance Specialist for Health Facility:** The position requires working in the acute health care environment to maintain and repair wide variety of systems including but not limited to steam plant, oxygen enrichment, reverse osmosis, back-up emergency electrical power, electrical switch gear, medical vacuum, medical compressed air, air condition and ventilation, life safety systems and general biomedical/dental equipments.
- Laborer, Landscaping and Groundskeeping:** Majority (80%) of time is spent maintaining property around company office, which is comprised of 4000 sq.mt (groundskeeping). Also does basic plumbing and repairs around office, and daily office cleaning to include work space located at clients and warehouse. Other (20%) is spent on general duties such as delivery/pickup of supplies and performs duties as mail runner.

THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222 CHRB
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950-5222

TO: MARIA AYUYU, Administratrix of the Estate of Lorenzo Aldan Ayuyu, Deceased:

The Estate of Lorenzo Aldan Ayuyu is in default of a Promissory Note dated February 2, 2006, secured by a Real Estate Mortgage of the same date, executed and delivered by Lorenzo Aldan Ayuyu to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation.

(a) Description of the real property covered by Mortgage:

Lot no. 011 G 946, situated in Kagman III, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 917 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat no. 011 G 18 dated December 13, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File no. 93-4286, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

(b) Date and amount of Promissory Note and Mortgage: February 2, 2016; \$28,000.00

(c) Amount due for principal: \$963.36 as of April 1, 2015

(d) Amount due for interest: \$7,212.02 as of April 1, 2015

(e) Daily accruing interest \$4.13

(f) Late charges -0-

If the principal, interest, and late charges, \$8,175.38 as of April 1, 2015, plus accruing interest, together with reasonable attorney's fees in the amount of \$500.00, are not paid within thirty (30) days from the date of service of this notice, the Estate of Lorenzo Aldan Ayuyu will be in default, and Court proceedings will be commenced against the Estate to foreclose upon the said Mortgage because of the default.

Unless you, within thirty (30) days after receipt of this letter dispute the validity of the claim, or any portion thereof, we will assume that it is valid. If you notify us in writing within thirty (30) day period that the claim, or any portion thereof, is disputed, we will obtain information on the debt and mail you a copy thereof. Upon your written request within thirty (30)-day period, we will provide you with the name and address of the original creditor, if different from the creditor indicated above.

This letter is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Very truly yours,
/s/ Michael A. White, ESQ.
Attorney at Law

I Estate of Lorenzo Aldan Ayuyu ti ha komple i kontratan debiña (Promissory Note) ni ma fitma gi Febru 2, 2006, ni afabobot i Real Estate Mortgage ma aseguro i tano yan guma ni ma empena gi mismo dia, ma fitma yan ma entrega i empena (Mortgage) guato gi Northern Mariana Housing Corporation.

(a) I deskripsion tano ni ma empena (mortgaged):

Sito numiro 011 G 946, ni gaigi gi Kagman III, Saipan Note Marianas, ni ha konsiste un aria 917 kuadro metro, mas pat menus, ni anak gi Division Tano yan Mididan Tano ofisial Cadastral Plat numiro 011 G 18 gi Disiembre 3, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File numiro 93-4286, guini I deskripsion ni ma incorporate guini ginen I infotmasyon

(b) I kantida yan i fechan este Febru 2, 2006; na debi yan empena: \$28,000.00

(c) Kantida un debi para principat: \$963.36 asta ki Abril 1, 2015

(d) Kantida un debi para interes: \$7,212 asta ki Abril 1, 2015

(e) Interest kada dia: \$4.13

(f) Apas pot atrasao (late charges): -0-

Yangin ti un apasi i kantida na principat, interes, yan apas pot atrasao (late charges) \$8,175.38 asta ki Abril 1, 2015 yan interes, yan i resanable na apas abugado pot \$500.00 gi halom trenta (30) dias despues di i fecha ni un resibe esta na notisia, i Estate of Lorenzo Aldan Ayuyu ma konsidera komo ti ma komple i kontrata (default), ya siempre u-matutuhun korta i Estate a kausan korti ni para uma kondena ya uma bendi i propriadat tano ni empena guato gi Northern Marianas Housing Corporation.

Solo yangin halom trenta (30) dias despues de un resibe esta na kata yan un kontra minagahet-na pot i apudera sino komo i pattida, siempre bai in hongge an asientadu a apudera. Pago yangin un kattayi ham gi halom este i trenta (30) dias siiko man infotoma hao pot i apudera sino komo i pattida para un kontra, pues bai in henta infotmasyon pot i dibi-mu despues un ma kattayi i kopia pot este na de'unta. Anai in resibe i katta-mu gi halom trenta (30) dias siiko, bai in nai' hao i na'an yan address i akredot komo ti parehu na akredot ma indika guini hulu.

Este na katta para u ma na'kesiña ma rikohi i dibi-mu. Maseha hafa na infotmasyon ni in resibe pot este na apudera—siña bai in usa para bai in ke-chagi mu rekohi para este i debi-mu.

Su Seguro Servidor,
/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ.
Attorney at Law

POI Aviation invites qualified US worker candidates to apply for the following positions:

HR and Administrative Officer
College Graduate with a Psychology or Human Resource Management Degree or other related field. At least 2 years experience in managing payroll, timekeeping, office/building administration, ISO documentation and audits/certifications. Able to work long hours, weekends and holidays.

Maintenance and Repair Worker
High School Diploma or GED. Preferably with related training in a vocational school. At least 2 years experience maintaining building structures including repairing mechanical and electrical equipment. Must have a reliable means of transportation

Interested applicants may send their applications to recruitment@poiaviation.com. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than November 17, 2015. Applications for Employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the POI Aviation Building on International Terminal LP, Saipan International Airport. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

POI Aviation is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Office of the Mayor
Municipality of Tinian & Aguiguan

NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that Mayor Joey P. San Nicolas will be appointing one of the following qualified individuals to serve as Commissioner on the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission:

Antonio SN. Borja
Jose P. Kiyoshi
Jose M. Dela Cruz
David M. Cing
Charlene M. Lizama

Please call the Tinian Mayor's Office at 433-1800 or email ana.tinian@gmail.com should you have any questions or comments.

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Seattle garbageman returns \$12,000 in lost checks to school
SEATTLE (AP)—A Seattle elementary school is thanking a garbageman for finding nearly \$12,000 in checks in the trash. KOMO-TV in Seattle reports that Waste Management employee Micah Speir was picking up scattered trash next to some bins when he found a number of checks made out to Lawson Elementary School. Principal Dorian Manza says he met Speir on his route and gratefully took the checks back. The funds were from a fundraising drive and a Parent-Teacher Association member had accidentally dropped the

bag along the garbage truck’s route. When Manza tried to tip Speir for his good deed, the man turned him down. Speir says his only concern was doing the right thing and returning the money to the school.
Police: Man used rope ladder to burglarize supermarket
CONNELLSVILLE, Pa. (AP)—State police have arrested a man on charges he broke into a Pennsylvania supermarket using a rope ladder—then claimed to merely be sleeping on the store’s roof when he was caught. Forty-eight-year-old Thomas Beal is in the Fayette County Book-

ing Center awaiting arraignment on burglary, criminal trespass and other charges. Troopers say a security guard inside Peachin’s Supermarket in Dunbar Township called police early Tuesday when he saw Beal enter the store through an air-conditioning vent and lower himself with the ladder. Troopers surrounded the building shortly after 3 a.m. and went onto the roof where they found Beal, who claimed to be sleeping.
Election judge accused of taking off with voting equipment
PITTSBURGH (AP)—Authorities in western Penn-



sylvania say a local judge of elections was arrested after allegedly failing to show up to the polls Tuesday and instead deciding to work as a jitney driver for the day. The Allegheny County sheriff’s office says 55-year-old Darrin Farmer of North Versailles never came to the North Versailles precinct with voting equipment, delaying poll opening by three hours. Authorities say his wife said he dropped her off at a store to buy refreshments for volunteers but then left. They allege he decided to spend the day giving rides for money. Farmer faces charges including tampering with public records and obstructing a government

function; a listed number for him couldn’t be found and it’s unclear whether he has an attorney who could respond to the charges.
Dog missing from Texas since May floods found in California
SAN MARCOS, Texas (AP)—The owners of a pit bull who disappeared during flooding in Texas in May are puzzled as to how the animal ended up more than 2,000 miles away in northern California. Eddie Hurtado says Thor ran away after his family evacuated their San Marcos home that was overwhelmed by the swelling Blanco River during storms over Memorial Day weekend. Police found Thor wandering in Crescent City, California, in September and took him to the Del Norte County Animal Shelter, where workers used the microchip to identify him. Hurtado says he doesn’t know how Thor got to California. Hurtado says he can’t afford the estimated \$1,500 to ship the dog home. A California trucker has volunteered to drive Thor back to San Marcos, 30 miles south of Austin.

and costs \$15 plus shipping and handling. The three workers with KSE Partners, a strategic communications and government affairs firm, say they created Bernie’s Briefs as a fun side business. The Vermont senator has said recently on late-night TV and talk shows that he prefers briefs over boxers. The startup’s founders called Sanders’ passion for serious issues admirable. One founder says the political process has benefited from his campaign. Ten percent of the proceeds will go toward the Yellow Ribbon Fund, which supports injured service members.

Boston pol says Bieber-graffiti tweet was sarcasm
BOSTON (AP)—A Boston City Councilor says he was being sarcastic when he tweeted that he would introduce an emergency ordinance prohibiting Justin Bieber-inspired graffiti. The pop singer asked artists around the world last week to paint murals inspired by tracks from his upcoming album, which is set to release Friday. The singer posted a photo on Thursday of a mural on a Boston pizza shop, prompting a joking response from Councilor Matt O’Malley on Monday saying he planned to file legislation to keep such murals off city walls. But not everyone grasped the intended humor and the tweet garnered a range of responses, including calls for O’Malley to focus on things like crime and poverty. O’Malley says he has nothing against Bieber, but that he’s not a fan of his work.

Company launches Bernie Sanders-inspired underwear line
MONTPELIER, Vt. (AP)—Employees of a Vermont company have launched a side business selling underwear featuring a black-and-white drawing of the face of Democratic presidential candidate Bernie Sanders. NECN reports that the underwear, which features the message “Feel the Bern,” is available for men and women



Are You

(A) Not attending any school

(B) Not younger than 16 or older than age 24 and


(C) Meet one or more of the following:

1. A school dropout
2. A youth who is within the age of compulsory school attendance, but has not attended school for at least the most recent complete school year calendar quarter.
School year calendar is based on how the local school district defines its school year quarters.
3. A recipient of a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent who is a low-income individual and is either basic skills deficient or an English language learner
4. An individual who is subject to the juvenile or adult justice system
5. A homeless individual, a runaway, an individual who is in foster care or has aged out of the foster care system, a child eligible for assistance under Section 477 of the Social Security Act, or an individual who is an out-of-home placement
6. An individual who is pregnant or parenting
7. An individual with a disability
8. A low-income individual who requires additional assistance to enter or complete an educational program or to secure or hold employment

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E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR REPAIRS TO DELTA DOCK AT THE SAIPAN HARBOR
Project No. CPA-SS-001-16

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested consultants for Architectural and Engineering (A/E) Design Services for the repairs to Delta Dock at the Saipan Harbor, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Project Number CPA-SS-001-16.

The project is being funded by CPA. This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package. Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA Executive Assistant, at (670) 237-6500, faxed to (670) 234-5962 and/or emailed to wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than Friday, November 13, 2015, 4:30 p.m., local time.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Similar work experience in harbor A/E design, including, but not limited to needs analysis, design, cost estimating, and environmental review and permitting (25 points).
2. Capability to perform all aspects of the project, such as analysis, planning, environmental evaluations, financial analysis and architectural and engineering design (25 points).
3. Level of proficiency in performing services promptly; and level of experience with the CPA projects (15 points).
4. The general reputation of the consultant in terms of quality of work experience and services performed for projects, and the consultant's professional integrity and competence (15 points).
5. Capacity to accomplish the work within the contract time (10 points).
6. Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal (10 points).

Interested Consultants shall submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m., DECEMBER 4, 2015**. Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified architect/engineer firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

All responses to this RFQ shall take into account any and all travel costs and taxes that will be charged to the consultant awarded an agreement for this project, including excise tax.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to:

Ms. MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOFOI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: November 2, 2015

Science & Technology

Bending razor-thin glass to technology's future needs

By TRACEY LIEN
LOS ANGELES TIMES

PALO ALTO, Calif.—Glass is glass. You can see through it, it keeps things out, and it breaks.

What more could Corning Inc.'s lab in Palo Alto do besides make it a little thinner, a little smoother and a little clearer?

Waguih Ishak smiled. As director of Corning West Coast Research Center, his face was friendly, but the knowing look in his eyes was clear: You have no idea.

He played with a plastic-like sheet between his hands, bending it back and forth.

"This is Willow Glass," he said, forming a bell curve with the sheet. "It's 0.1-millimeter-thin glass."

Corning can now mass-pro-

duce Willow Glass and ship it around the world in large rolls.

"And this," he said, tapping on some smaller pieces of glass on the table, "is Gorilla Glass."

Gorilla Glass is the glass in iPhones. Thanks to Corning's chemical formulas, it's the reason phones are now more scratch- and shock-resistant than earlier models.

Now picture this, Ishak said: razor-thin glass with the flexibility of plastic and the durability of steel.

Think what it would mean for mobile devices.

Heck, think what it could mean for any electronic device with a screen.

This isn't a pipe dream, he said. Scientists at Corning—a company that creates the recipes and processes to manufacture glass

used in smartphones, televisions and even space shuttles—are finally having technological breakthroughs that could make glass, an often overlooked component of electronic devices, sexy.

Or, in Ishak's eyes, sexier than it already is.

"Plastic ages," he said. "After a few years it becomes yellow and deteriorates. Glass doesn't."

He continued: "If you have a 1-millimeter sheet of plastic, it will take an oxygen ion (that is, moisture) a few hours to get through it. Moisture is terrible for electronics. If you have a 1-millimeter piece of glass, it

will take 30 billion years."

"So!" Ishak said, raising both eyebrows, satisfied he'd made his point. "Hmmm!"

Beyond the inherent properties of glass, though, Ishak has reason to believe in the material. Willow and Gorilla Glass aside, he's leading a team of scientists and engineers at Corning to make glass do things most people thought were impossible. Thinner, stronger, flexible, anti-glare, anti-bacterial—and that's just the start of it.

These developments are a big deal, according to industry experts who believe advance-

ments in glass alone could change the way we make and use mobile devices.

"I see the immediate use of this ultra-thin glass will be improving the durability of phones," said Andrew Hsu, head of the concept prototyping team at Synaptics, a firm that develops touch screens and displays. "It's amazing to think everyone has a \$600-to-\$800 device that's incredibly complicated, and people use and abuse them and throw them around."

More durable phones could also mean the end of phone cases, which, according to Dan-

iel Hays, a principal partner at PwC, could "improve the viability of having dual-screen phones where the back of the phone serves a different purpose," he said. A second screen, perhaps? Maybe a touchpad?

Or, according to Hsu, if glass can get so thin that it's bendable while retaining its strength, think of the different forms devices could take.

"In the early days of phones, there was a diverse ecosystem of handsets that took many different forms and shapes," he said. "Then, after 2009, every one had a rectangular slab."

TECH Q&A

How to avoid downloading junk software

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: My work PC has some malware that produces unwanted messages, and sometimes I have to quit a program to get rid of them. I've been told that I'll need to completely reformat the C drive to get rid of the malware. How would I do that, and is it necessary? I work for a nonprofit, and our software budget is pretty limited.

A: Reformatting your C drive and reinstalling Windows should only be done as a last resort, and then only after backing up all your data. A better first step is to use the free version of the Malwarebytes security program at tinyurl.com/lm3wdeb.

Then make sure you have antivirus software. If you don't, and are using Windows Vista or 7, you can download the free Microsoft Security Essentials (tinyurl.com/aaka9b). Read the explanatory note to be sure you download the correct version (either 32-bit or 64-bit) for your PC. Windows 8, 8.1 and 10 have their own security software.

It's worth noting that your situation isn't unusual. Here are some ways to avoid downloading unwanted software that produces altered Web searches, new home pages or unexpected messages (such as advertising or bogus warnings that your PC is infected):

■ Be vigilant when downloading free software. Sometimes you'll be able to opt out of these extra programs during installation. Other times you'll need to choose "custom" installation to opt out of extra programs. Avoid the "express" in-

stallation that installs everything.

■ Don't download free toolbars for your Web browser. While toolbars offer easy access to frequently visited websites, they may include unwanted software that can pose a security threat or slow down your PC by using additional memory (see tinyurl.com/poag95w).

■ Don't download free software from the "sponsored" links (which are paid advertising) found at the top of Web search results. These downloads often contain unwanted programs.

For more information, see "How to avoid installing software you don't want" from Consumer Reports (tinyurl.com/ox3kqgg).

Q: I set Google Chrome as my default browser on Windows 10, but sometimes Microsoft's new Edge browser suddenly pops up with an advertisement. Why? And isn't Microsoft required to let us disable or uninstall its browser and use a different one?

A: Make sure the Edge browser's pop-up blocker is turned on. Click on the three dots at the top right of the browser and select settings. Scroll down and click "view advanced settings," then turn on "block pop-ups."

Under the 2001 settlement of the Microsoft antitrust case, non-Microsoft browsers can easily work with Windows, but the firm's own browsers can't be eliminated.

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.

Eternal life with our Creator, His Saints and Angels



Mary Elizabeth Maratita Camacho

March 08, 1984 - November 03, 2015

Peacefully joined her Baby Angel Maratita Camacho, her maternal grandparents Pedro Songao & Maria Ulloa Maratita and her paternal grandparents Antonio Taitingfong & Maria Blas Camacho

Mary's earthly life and loving memories will forever live on with her parents
Ramon (RB) Blas & Delia Maratita Camacho
Her reared son Jeremiah and two beautiful daughters Maria Teresa and Fatima Delia

Her loving and giving hands will always be cherished by her siblings
Dexter, Jaime and Children
Ray Anthony, Eluene and Children
Felix Jonathan, Esther and Children
Kerry and Children
 Reared Brother: **Jake Hiram**, Nadia and Children

Special Friend: Randy Garcia

Mary's ever respectful, cheerful and caring manners will always be treasured by her aunts and uncles. Lovingly called as "Da'dao" will also be greatly missed by her numerous cousins whom they shared and enjoyed wonderful and happy memories with each other. She will also be greatly missed by her colleagues and co-workers—CNMI Treasury.

Holy Rosary is being prayed at 11:45am at their residence in Koblerville
 Alaguan Street behind KB Market

Mass of Intention for her repose soul is being offered at the following churches:
 November 5th Thursday - St. Jude Church 6pm
 November 6th Friday - San Antonio Church 6pm
 November 7th Saturday - San Antonio Church 6pm
 November 8th Sunday - San Antonio Church 7am
 November 9th Monday - Mt. Carmel Cathedral 6am
 Tuesday 10th Tuesday - Mt. Carmel Cathedral 6am

Funeral Services will be held on Monday, November 16, 2015. Her remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 7:30am to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Responso Service will be at 8:00am followed by viewing and visitation. Holy Rosary will be recited at 11:00am.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 2:00 in the afternoon and Interment Service will take place at Chalan Kanoa cemetery where she will be at a peaceful rest.

Please join us in prayers,

Life & Style

2 degrees, flies planes, author, works at NASA. His age? 17

BOSTON (AP)—Moshe Kai Cavalin has two college degrees, but he's too young to vote. He flies airplanes, but he's too young to drive a car alone.

Life is filled with contrasts for Cavalin, a 17-year-old from San Gabriel, California, who has dashed by major milestones as his age seems to lag behind. He graduated from community college at age 11. Four years later, he had a bachelor's in math from the University of California, Los Angeles.

This year, he started online classes to get a master's in cybersecurity through the Boston area's Brandeis University. He decided to postpone that pursuit for a couple of terms, though, while he helps NASA develop surveillance technology for airplanes and drones.

Between all that, he has racked up an exhausting list of extracurricular feats. He just published his second book, drawing on his experience being bullied and stories he's heard from others. He plans to have his airplane pilot's license by the year's end. At his family's home near Los Angeles, he has a trove of trophies from martial arts tournaments.

Still, Cavalin insists that



This August 2014 photo provided by Shu Chien shows her son Moshe Kai Cavalin at the DEF CON 23 hacker's conference in Las Vegas.

he's more ordinary than people think. He credits his parents for years of focused instruction balanced by the freedom to pick his after-school activities. His eclectic interests stem from his cultural heritage, he said, with a mother from Taiwan and a father from Brazil.

"My case isn't that special. It's just a combination of parenting and motivation and inspiration," he says after a

recent shift at NASA's Armstrong Flight Research Center in Edwards, California. "I tend to not compare myself that often to other people. I just try to do the best I can."

His parents say he was always a quick study. At 4 months, he pointed to a jet in the sky and said the Chinese word for airplane, his first word. Cavalin hit the limits of his home schooling after

studying trigonometry at age 7. Then his mom started driving him to community college.

"I think most people just think he's a genius, they believe it just comes naturally," said Daniel Judge, a professor of mathematics who taught Cavalin for two years at East Los Angeles College. "He actually worked harder than, I think, any

other student I've ever had."

But his rapid rise hasn't been without twists. Early in college, he dreamed of being an astrophysicist. When he started taking advanced physics classes, though, his interest waned. His fascination in cryptography led him toward computer science.

That has been a better fit, Cavalin said. He was surprised when NASA called to offer work after rejecting him in the past because of his age. Ricardo Arteaga, his boss and mentor at NASA, says Cavalin was perfect for a project that combines math, computers and aircraft technology.

"I needed an intern who knew software and knew mathematical algorithms," Arteaga says. "And I also needed a pilot who could fly it on a Cessna."

In the office, Cavalin is a quiet worker with a subtle sense of humor, Arteaga says. They laugh about the stuff scientists laugh about. His daily work at NASA has included running simulations of airplanes and drones that are headed for collision, and then finding ways to route them to safety.

"He's really sharp in mathematics," Arteaga says. "What we're trying to bring out more is his intuitive skills."

In conversation, Cavalin speaks with the even cadence and diction of someone who chooses his words with care. He's unflappable, at least until he discusses his distaste for being called a certain word: "One word I don't take too kindly is genius," he said. "Genius is just kind of taking it too far."

After he finishes his master's from Brandeis, Cavalin hopes to get a master's in business at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Later, he wants to start his own cybersecurity company.

For now, though, he's counting down the days until his 18th birthday, when he'll be able to get a full driver's license under California law. Living away from home to work at NASA, he relies on his landlord for rides to the grocery store, or he takes a taxi. His older colleagues drive him to work every day.

As for the other teenage stuff, Cavalin says he'll wait until he gets his doctorate degree to find a girlfriend. He's only half-joking.

Modigliani, Picasso works sell at Sotheby's fall auction

NEW YORK (AP)—A painting by Amedeo Modigliani sold for \$42.8 million, well above its estimate, on the first day of Sotheby's fall art auction on Wednesday.

Works by Pablo Picasso and Willem de Kooning also fetched tens of millions of dollars and a Frank Stella canvas brought a record price.

The auction opened Sotheby's fall art auction season with works from the renowned collection of its former owner, A. Alfred Taubman. On Thursday, it will return with other

masterpieces including a stunning landscape by Vincent van Gogh that could realize as much as \$70 million.

Experts say the prices are driven by artworks' investment value and wealthy collectors seeking out the very best works.

"There are apparently vast sums of money swimming around the world and with interest rates so low, few places to park it," said Manhattan dealer and collector Richard Feigen.

Seventy-seven masterworks from the Taubman collection

went under the gavel in a dedicated sale Wednesday evening.

De Kooning's richly colored "Untitled XXI" sold for nearly \$24.9 million, under its estimate of \$25 million to \$35 million. Modigliani's "Paulette Jourdain," which sold for \$42.8 million, had an estimate of \$25 million. And Picasso's 1938 "Woman Seated on a Chair," a portrait of the artist's lover and muse Dora Maar, sold for more than \$20 million, below its estimate of between \$25 million and \$35 million.

Californians to vote on requiring condoms in porn films

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—Californians are set to decide next year whether to require actors in pornographic movies to wear condoms, taking up an issue that could affect the future of the state's multibillion-dollar adult film industry.

The initiative qualified for the November 2016 ballot on Wednesday after supporters gathered the nearly 366,000 valid petition signatures they needed, the secretary of state's office said.

The measure would require movie actors to wear condoms when filming scenes of sexual intercourse. It would also require movie producers to pay for vaccinations, testing and medical exams for sexual transmitted diseases.

It would help prevent the spread of diseases both among

actors and by promoting safe sex practices among viewers, said AIDS Healthcare Foundation President Michael Weinstein, the measure's proponent.

"The No. 1 way that young people learn about sex in this day and age is pornography on the Internet," he said in a telephone interview. "In porn, real people are having real sex. They're transmitting actual diseases, and the audience knows it. It's not like a fictional Hollywood film."

The Free Speech Coalition, which is the adult film industry's trade association, fears the measure would harm the industry and promote lawsuits against actors, producers and distributors without significantly improving safety because performers currently are tested for disease every 14 days. "This

is an unconscionable initiative that would take a legal and safe industry and push its performers into the shadows," Diane Duke, the trade group's chief executive, said in a statement.

The measure could cost the state tens of millions of dollars annually in lost state and local tax revenue, projected the non-partisan Legislative Analyst and the state finance department.

But Weinstein said the industry is unlikely to abandon California because few other places allow the legal production of pornography or have California's benign weather that permits filming outdoors year-round.

Weinstein said he could withdraw the ballot measure if state lawmakers enact a similar law by June 30. However, he noted that such legislation has previously failed.

In Loving Memory of

†Jesus Sablan Santos

Lovingly known as
"Chumbai" or "Jesus Maka"

We, the family of the late †Jesus Sablan Santos, would like to invite all our families, relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the first year death anniversary of our beloved's passing unto eternal life.

Daily Mass of Intentions will be held at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral beginning Monday, November 9, 2015 to Friday, November 13, 2015 at 6:00am.

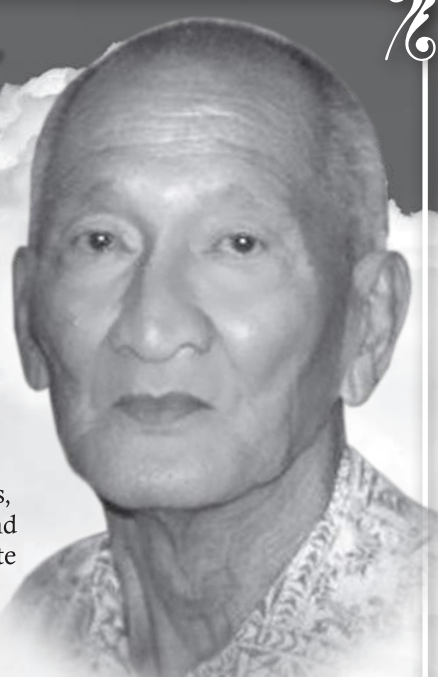

On November 14, 16 and 17, 2015 mass will be held at the Santa Soledad Church at 6:00pm and at 7:30am on Sunday, November 15, 2015.

On the last day, dinner will be served after Mass at the family's residence in Capitol Hill.

We are sincerely grateful for your thoughts, prayers, and presence.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase – Thank You

Thongpan (Linda) T. Santos,
Children & Family

Protest against Trump hosting 'Saturday Night Live' grows

NEW YORK (AP)—Pressure continued to mount on NBC to cancel Donald Trump's guest-host appearance on this weekend's "Saturday Night Live" as a coalition of advocacy groups delivered petitions to

This Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2015 photo provided by NBC shows, Cecily Strong, left, and Donald Trump from the episode "Donald Trump" on "Saturday Night Live."

AP



the network Wednesday calling for him to be dropped from the show.

The petitions delivered to 30 Rockefeller Plaza, home of NBC and "Saturday Night Live," marked the latest attempts to dissuade the network from allowing the Republican presidential hopeful to host the show, with the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda earlier asking that NBC reconsider the decision.

"There's mounting evidence that Donald Trump's racist demagoguery is resulting in real-world violence and physical and verbal intimidation," Mushed Zaheed, deputy political director of Credo Action, one of the participating groups, said in a statement.

In advance of the show, NBC released promotional spots featuring Trump that included one in which he refers to a Republican opponent, Ben

Carson, as "a complete and total loser."

Trump drew fire early in his campaign when, as the billionaire developer announced his candidacy, he described some Mexicans who are in the United States illegally as criminals and rapists, prompting NBC to sever its Miss Universe ties with Trump while declaring he would never again appear on "The Celebrity Apprentice."

Family offers little sympathy after online boyfriend's death

DEAR ABBY: I am a 20-year-old woman. A few months ago, my boyfriend (my very first boyfriend) committed suicide. I feel absolutely destroyed.

The problem is, my family doesn't regard my feelings of grief seriously because our relationship was started and maintained online. We lived several states apart, and while we never met in person, we talked every night and video-chatted many, many times. My feelings for him were real.

I broke down when I heard the news, and I still hurt, but my family thinks I'm overreacting. They can't understand how a relationship with someone online can be serious. How can I make them recognize how much pain I'm in? The fact they refuse to recognize this loss hurts me so much more. What do I do?

ALL ALONE IN LOUISIANA

DEAR ALL ALONE: Please accept my sympathy for the loss of someone you cared about so deeply. That your parents would minimize your feelings is sad, but it says more about them and their level of sensitivity than the depth of your relationship with him. Many serious relationships have started online, and marriages as well, and I understand you are left mourning all the things that might have been.

At 20, you are no longer a child. You can find emotional support elsewhere. Talk to your clergyperson, if you have one, or look online for a grief support group you can join. There you

will be able to safely vent about your feelings with others who understand what you are experiencing right now.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My parents divorced four years ago. Mom currently lives with my husband and me. We have a great relationship with her, and she never speaks ill of my father. She has moved on, found a new direction in life and a new boyfriend we all like very much.

Dad moved in with the woman he cheated on Mom with, but their relationship fell apart. He has never stopped speaking ill of Mom. When things aren't going well for him, he causes trouble by showing up at Mom's workplace and making a scene. He'll also come over to our house unannounced to talk badly about her.

He was a great father until a few years ago when all this trouble started. I feel torn between trying to continue a relationship with him or cutting him out of my life like a bad daughter. What should I do?

CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR CAUGHT: Your father's behavior is sick. Depending upon how disruptive he is when he shows up at your mother's workplace, suggest she consider getting a restraining order preventing him from acting out that way. She must have a very understanding employer to have tolerated it, because that kind of disruption has been known to cost people their jobs.

And when your dad shows up at your home unannounced,

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



speak up. Tell him you and your husband don't like it. Make clear that his nasty comments about your mother aren't welcome, and neither will he be, unless he calls first to see if a visit is all right with everyone. His misbehavior continues because you have allowed it.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING PROGRAM

Babies learn from the time they are born. One of the ways they learn is through hearing. When a baby is born with hearing loss, many sounds and voices are not heard, and the child's speech and language development can be delayed. CHCC implemented newborn hearing as a standard of care and all babies get their hearing screened shortly after birth.



Ask if your baby passed the test. If you have concerns or your baby needs follow up call 236-8709.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Printing funded by the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Grant under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Service Administration.



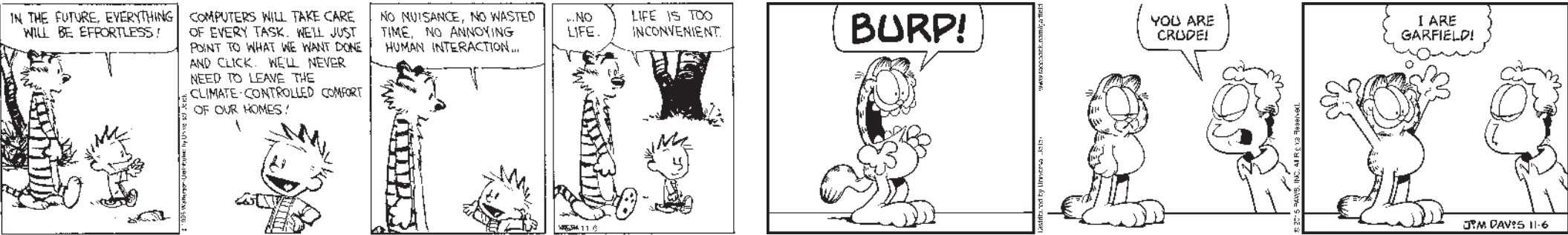
Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

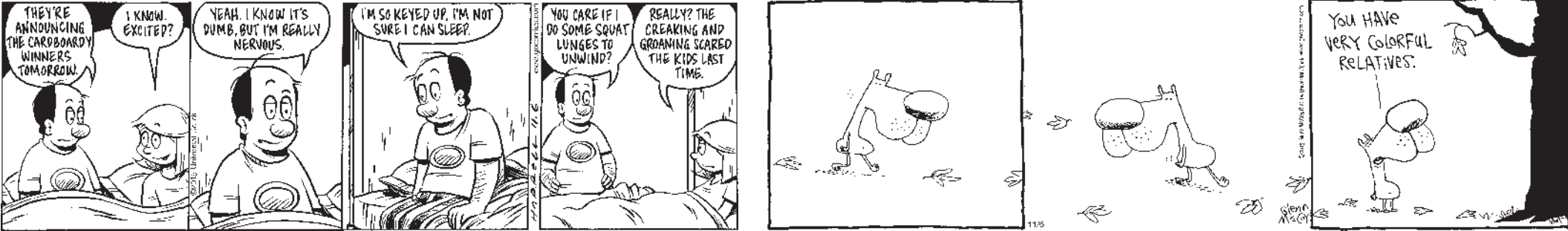


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Driving need?

4 Dingy duds

8 Not hard

12 Hooter

13 Notion

14 Guided trip

15 Sweet-scented flower

17 Grand Ole —

18 Kibbutz setting

19 Geisha's sash

21 Toast type

22 Lei flower

26 Big fuss

29 — whim

30 Outback bird

31 Trails

32 Form 1040 org.

33 "Baseball Tonight" ailer

34 "Life of Pi" director

35 Cone lead-in

36 Goblet

37 African —

39 ISP giant

40 Sharp feller?

41 Land

45 More — enough

48 White flower

50 Style

51 Sci-fi race

52 Rear

53 Where leopards are

54 Russo of "The Intern"

55 Golfer Michelle

2 Hole punchers

3 Hurtful remark

4 Steak cut

5 "Skyfall" singer

6 Firm up

7 Oater bars

8 Bite-the-bullet type

9 Alley- —

10 Glove lining

11 Whirl

16 Wins

20 Bali product

23 "— Rebel" (Crystals hit)

24 Brats

25 Pestors debtors

26 Prague native

27 Kid's plea

28 Waffle maker

29 Mexican gold

32 1 or 2

33 "Lights" singer

35 Gender

36 Actress

38 Bowling alleys

39 Quarter-back

42 Chew (on)

43 LP player

44 London's —

45 H'wood gossip site

46 "Yoo- —!"

47 Fuss

49 Drink from a keg

Solution time: 26 mins.

Yesterday's answer 11-6

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Emma Stone, 27; Ethan Hawke, 45; Maria Shriver, 60; Sally Field, 69.

Happy Birthday: You'll have lots of opportunities this year if you are disciplined in your search to make improvements to your status, reputation and qualifications. Your past successes will help you secure your place in a changing economy. Share your ideas and express your interest in what others do, and the outcome will be spectacular. Romance is on the rise. Your numbers are 9, 13, 25, 27, 31, 38, 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Get your facts straight before you offer an opinion. Confidence, knowledge and being able to convince others that your ideas are sound will be what count. Being conservative is practical, but your creative imagination will also be required. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Raise the bar when it comes to your contributions at work and in your community. A window of opportunity will open regarding travel, education and communication. Listen and offer suggestions. Love and romance are in the stars. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Keep your emotions in check when dealing with personal matters. Arguments will break out if you are too opinionated. Someone will try to use manipulative tactics to get you to take part in something you find questionable. Don't give in to demands. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Make changes at home that will improve your personal life. A relationship will flourish if you discuss your intentions and plans for the future. Romance will help to ensure that you are heading in the same direction as someone you love. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Think matters through and follow up with your ideas. Don't give in to pressure from someone who doesn't agree with you. Check out professional options and explore the qualifications required to head in a new direction. You are due for a change. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Invest your time in talks that will lead to solutions. You can clear up concerns by expressing your feelings to others. Love is on the rise, and a special evening will bring you closer to your comfort zone with someone special. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Hidden matters will be revealed. It's important to stay on top of things at work and in your personal life to avoid being caught up in hearsay and rumors that can hurt your reputation. Speak honestly and openly. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Romance is encouraged and will result in you feeling more confident regarding personal decisions. Don't hesitate to make some critical changes both at home and in your professional position. A good financial move is within reach. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll face opposition and disappointment if you lack the facts and figures required to make a deal or win a debate. Someone will try to play on your emotions and make you look bad in front of your peers. Proceed with caution. ★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Wrap up unfinished personal affairs. A commitment you make to someone will bring results. Love is in the stars. Make plans that will improve your love life and secure your relationship for years to come. Try to please the ones you love. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Research your options. Set up interviews and discuss your intentions with anyone who can introduce you to the right group of people. A new skill will help you make positive improvements to your earning potential. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Help out in your community or get involved in a cause or political party that you believe can make a difference. The people you meet by participating in events will offer you ideas for self-improvement. ★★★

Birthday Baby: You are communicative, unique and precise. You are proactive and steadfast.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter](https://twitter.com/eugenialast)/[facebook](https://www.facebook.com/eugenialast)/[linkedin](https://www.linkedin.com/company/eugenialast).

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

11/06

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	1	8	5	7	2	4	6	3
6	5	7	3	4	8	9	1	2
4	3	2	6	9	1	5	7	8
7	6	5	2	8	4	1	3	9
1	8	9	7	3	6	2	5	4
2	4	3	1	5	9	6	8	7
3	7	1	9	2	5	8	4	6
8	2	6	4	1	3	7	9	5
5	9	4	8	6	7	3	2	1

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

THE PEANUTS MOVIE

Solution: 8 letters

LEMACTIWPOSCBTB
KCOTSDOOWSCHULZ
XSHERMYDUHAPUEL
PONAYRBNRRRAERPR
OIFRREIOLTSPSPNI
NNGYELEITKAPFAG
IWAPRDEYYUIEAVD
LYOIEUBSLKIRYIE
KLLRLNTAEGJMKOR
NLAMLBUNRVOIRLI
AAFLDBGIEOENAEA
RSUILENROCNTPTH
FCOONITRAMCASTD
YSNOOPYGBIPLANE
FILMARCIELGAEBR

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Beagle, Biplane, Blue Sky Studios, Brown, Bryan, Cast, Century Fox, Charles, Charlie, Cornelius, Craig, Feig, Film, Franklin, Joe, Linus, Lucy, Marcie, Martino, Olaf, Pal, Patty, Paul, Peppermint, Pig Pen, Red Baron, Red-Haired Girl, Sally, Schroeder, Schulz, Sherry, Snoopy, Sopwith Camel, Sparky, Spike, Steve, Uliano, Van Pelt, Violet, Woodstock.

Yesterday's Answer: Tournament

Purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 or 44 in time for the holidays by calling 1-800-642-6480. Order on line at WonderWordBooks.com

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CLASSIFIED ADS



EMPLOYMENT



1-Accountant Bookkeeper/Computer Operator - \$6.05 w/ 6 yrs exp & knowledge in Acctng & Taxes. Japanese Foods import/export docs related. Mail resume to SPE Saipan Box 502696 Saipan MP 96950.

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Moving Off-Island Family Garage Sale

This Saturday, November 7th from 6:30am to 10:30am. Located at Gualo Rai, three houses past the Gualo Rai basketball court going south. Look for signs. We will be selling lots and lots of new, old and used items such as: home décor, housewares, swing, walker, furniture, shoes, clothing and many more.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Accountant/Fiscal Officer

Bachelor's degree in Business Accounting (may be foreign equivalent). Responsible for the operation of all client's accounting systems and records, including but not limited to cash receipts, expenditures, investments, purchasing, inventory, assets, payroll. Preparation of all types of local, state, and federal tax returns. 5 years experience as Accountant and Fiscal Officer. Familiarity with CMW and Federal tax law preferred. Knowledgeable of all business types entity.

Send resume to RR and Associates Corporation, Attn: Vice President, P.O. Box 504039, Saipan, MP 96950

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Expiration Date: 28 December 2018

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30 - Mason

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With 5 years experience

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1 - Civil Engineer

Salary - \$6.50 to \$8.00/hr

- At least Bachelor's / College Degree in Civil Engineering

- Five (5) to ten (10) years experience in Cost Estimating, Planning, Scheduling, Job Inspection, & CAD Drawing

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Interested applicants may send resume to
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- Language proficiency on Chinese and Japanese is a PLUS.

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- Must have a degree in Accounting. 3 years experience. Knowledgeable of Peachtree and Quickbooks.

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Send resume to: R & J store across Dollar days
Garapan or call 233-9469/783-5419

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Job Vacancy Announcement

(3) Day Care Workers

- CCDF or DCCA Certification Required
- Willing to work flexible hours
- Must be reliable
- Medical Background is a plus
- Three years' experience in Child Care

(2) Teachers

- BSE/ED Graduate
- Three years' experience in head start, pre-school and afterschool teaching
- Must be computer literate
- Must have tutorial experience
- Certification in tutorial is a plus.

Salary commensurate with experience and qualifications.

If interested, please email resume to
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WHATZIT Solution: Make a mountain out of a molehill

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Find today's solution in classified section

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE (CSR)

Seeking for motivated candidate to fill the position of a Customer Service Representative (CSR). Candidate must have work related experience. Knowledgeable in airline reservations, ticketing, and check-in, boarding, customer service and complaint resolution, as well as, receiving aircraft. Must have good customer service, good communication, and good telephone etiquette. Ability to speak Korean is essential. Flexible. If interested, please submit resume to humanresources@holidayresortguam.com
eeo/aap

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invites qualified US worker candidates to apply for the following positions:

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High school diploma or equivalent. Two (02) months work experience in Travel or Tour operation or sales or service based work environment. Preferably fluent in both written and oral communication in the English, Korean, Japanese, or Chinese languages. Able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Able to drive tourists safely through various tour routes.

Accountant (1)

High School graduate, GED, Associates degree or equivalent with at least 2-3 years bookkeeping or clerical accounting work experience in tour operation, sales or service related work. Associate Degree in Accounting, Auditing, Business Management or Finance an advantage. Must be proficient with Microsoft Office applications such as Word Processor and Spreadsheet; and proficient with Accounting software such as SAPR3 FICO (Financial and Controlling) system, ERP system, and HR2 system). Personable and flexible under pressure. Able to work independently with detailed projects and have an aptitude to learn new skills. Must be able to operate computers programmed with accounting software to record, store, and analyze information. Able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends.

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High school degree. A minimum of six (6) months to one (1) year experience in a related field. Work experience with travel and tour operation is an advantage. Able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Able to drive tourists safely through various tour routes. Preferably fluent in both written and oral communication in the English, Russian, Korean, or Chinese languages.

Interested applicants may obtain application forms from the Front Office of Century Tours, Inc., located at the ground floor of the Kanoa Resort on Beach Road in Susupe, Saipan. Offices are open Sunday-Saturday from 9 AM-6 PM. Worker's compensation provided. Applications and/or resumes may also be emailed to hr_ceti@tanholdings.com until November 18, 2015. Incumbents must be able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Drug testing is required prior to employment.

Century Tours, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

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Is seeking to fill the position of
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The successful candidate will possess all or many of the following capabilities:

- Manage a busy office environment and calendar appointments for an attorney.
- Plan, organize and prioritize time and workload in order to accomplish tasks and meet deadlines.
- Follow written and/or oral instructions.
- Type, prepare, and format a variety of legal documents from source documents.
- Speak clearly, concisely and effectively; listen to and understand, information and ideas as presented verbally.
- Write or draft correspondence, reports, documents and other written materials.
- Receive calls and/or greet clients, take and relay messages.
- Maintain a professional image in dress and attitude conducive to a law office.
- Maintain and/or create files or record keeping systems and retrieve documents, or other materials.
- Use computer word processing software.
- Familiarity with basic bookkeeping, payroll and tax documents.
- Familiarity with Quickbooks and Timeslips is preferred.
- Must have own vehicle and drivers' license.

Please respond with a cover letter and resumé.
Resumés that are not accompanied by a cover letter may not be considered for an interview.

Salary negotiable and based on experience. Proof of U.S. Citizenship or ability to work in the CNMI must be provided at time of interview. EOE.

Deadline to submit resumés is November 10th, 2015. Please mail to P.O. Box 502845 or email to reception@bellaslaw.net.

LeBron scores 23, rips jersey in Cavs' 96-86 win over Knicks



CLEVELAND (AP)—The jersey was too tight and so was the score.

LeBron James took care of both.

James scored 23 points and did some quick tailoring on Cleveland's body-hugging, sleeved uniforms. Mo Williams added 22 and the Cavaliers won their fourth straight, 96-86 over the New York Knicks on Wednesday night.

James made a 3-pointer and dunked off a nice pass from Williams while scoring 11 in the fourth quarter, when the Cavs outscored the Knicks 26-17.

Tristan Thompson grabbed 13 rebounds and Kevin Love had 12 for Cleveland, which hasn't lost since opening night in Chicago. The Cavs didn't have their same ball movement, and they fell behind 15 in the first quarter before finding their groove in the second half, outscoring New York 58-40.

Frustrated with his shot in the first half, an irritated James ripped the sleeves on Cleveland's new, black jerseys. The four-time MVP, who has complained in the past that the retro-looking tops are too snug on his arms and shoulders, tore his jersey in the midst of a 4-of-11 shooting performance in the opening 24 minutes.

"I was just frustrated with myself," he said. "I was just off rhythm and the jersey is the only thing I can go to. I couldn't do nothing to my face. I couldn't make a bucket so I had to take it out on something."

Carmelo Anthony scored 17 and rookie Kristaps Porzingis 13 for the Knicks, who were even at 75-all in the fourth when James went to work.

Cleveland's star capped a 12-4 spurt with a 3-pointer—just his second this season—to give Cleveland an 87-79 lead with 4:01 remaining. Later, he blasted down the lane and thundered home his dunk off a great look from Williams.

"They put the ball in his hands and let him make plays," Anthony said of James. "You got to make adjustments to that."

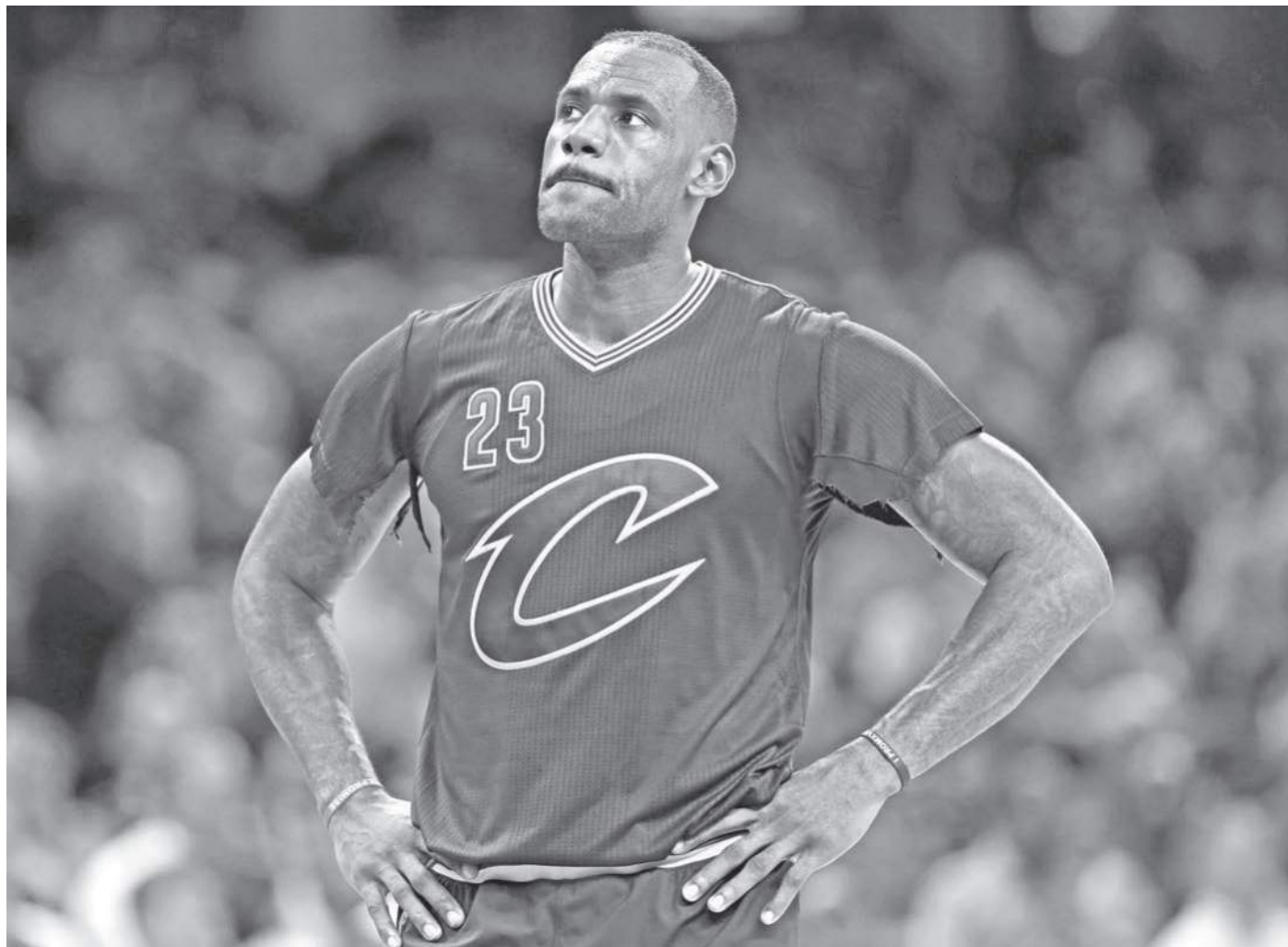
James, who earlier this week became the youngest player in league history to reach 25,000 points, had an off-night from the field, going just 9 of 23.

The jersey might have had something to do with it.

James has never liked the sleeved tops, introduced by the NBA as an alternate look two seasons ago. Following a loss to San Antonio in 2014 when he was with Miami, James said the uniforms are restrictive, making it difficult to shoot.

The Cavaliers will be required to wear this jersey three to six times this season. James was asked if he'd wear sleeves again.

"If the fans love them, I love them," he said, giving a diplomatic answer. "If our fans love



the uniforms, I'll wear them for 48 (minutes). I'm so used to the sleeveless cutoffs, the tank top. I've been playing in tank tops all my life."

Raptors 103, Thunder 98

In Oklahoma City, DeMar DeRozan scored 10 of his 28 points in the fourth quarter as Toronto overcame an eight-point deficit in the final 6 minutes to beat Oklahoma City and remain undefeated.

Jonas Valanciunas had 17 points and 12 rebounds and Kyle Lowry added 17 points for the Raptors (5-0), who beat Dallas the night before. Toronto shot 42 percent from the field, but benefited from 19 Oklahoma City turnovers.

Russell Westbrook scored 20 of his 22 points in the second half and finished with 16 assists. Kevin Durant had 27 points and Enes Kanter added 15 for the Thunder, who lost their second straight. It was the first time this season the Thunder scored fewer than 100 points.

Warriors 112, Clippers 108

In Oakland, California, Stephen Curry scored 31 points, including the go-ahead 3-pointer with just over a minute to go that led defending champion Golden State to its fifth straight win to open the season.

Harrison Barnes added 17 points and sparked the big run that helped Golden State overcome a 10-point deficit in the fourth quarter to knock off perhaps its most hated rival.

Chris Paul scored 24 points and Blake Griffin added 23 for the Clippers, who also had won their first four games of the season to give extra meaning to this

early season matchup.

An offseason war of words that has been waged between Clippers coach Doc Rivers and several Warriors about what role luck played in their championship last season only added to the drama.

Bucks 91, 76ers 87

In Milwaukee, Khris Middleton scored 21 points as Milwaukee welcomed back forward Jabari Parker from a left knee injury with a victory over Philadelphia.

Parker, the second pick in the 2014 draft, started and played 16 minutes in his first game since tearing his ACL on Dec. 15. He shot 1 of 6 for two points, and his jumper looked a little rusty.

Middleton picked him up down the stretch.

Greg Monroe's layup with 1:29 left gave the Bucks an 86-85 lead. Middleton hit a fallaway 3-pointer with 48 seconds remaining to make it a four-point game. He sealed the win with two foul shots with 1.4 seconds left.

Philadelphia rookie Jahlil Okafor finished with 21 points and six rebounds.

Giannis Antetokounmpo added 17 points and shot 7 of 11 for the Bucks.

Hawks 101, Nets 87

In Atlanta, Al Horford scored 21 points and Dennis Schroder added 20 as Atlanta beat Brooklyn for its fifth straight win.

Brook Lopez finished with a season-high 27 points and Thaddeus Young had 14 for the Nets, who dropped to 0-5. Joe Johnson went 1 for 10 and finished with five points against his former team.

Jeff Teague had 16 points and six assists, and Paul Millsap had

12 points and nine rebounds for the Hawks.

Rockets 119, Magic 114, OT

In Houston, James Harden scored 28 points, including seven in overtime, to help Houston outlast Orlando.

It was a wild, back-and-forth game that was tied 18 times and featured 22 lead changes.

Dwight Howard and Harden made consecutive layups to get the Rockets going in overtime and make it 114-110. Evan Fournier had a basket for the Magic before a three-point play by Harden pushed the lead to 117-112.

Shabazz Napier cut it to 117-114 with a jump shot with 2 1/2 minutes left in OT. But the Magic didn't score after that and Harden made a pair of free throws with 0.9 seconds left to secure the victory.

Fournier finished with 29 points and four assists. He tied it at 110 with two free throws with 1.1 seconds remaining in regulation.

Howard had 23 points and 14 rebounds.

Wizards 102, Spurs 99

In Washington, Bradley Beal made a 3-pointer with 0.3 seconds remaining to give Washington a victory over San Antonio.

Beal finished with 25 points, and John Wall had 17 points and 13 assists for Washington. Wall had 13 points in the fourth quarter, and the duo scored the Wizards' last 15 points.

Otto Porter added 19 points to help Washington win its second straight over San Antonio dating to last season. The Spurs had previously won 17 straight against the Wizards.

Kawhi Leonard led San Antonio with 23 points, Tony Parker scored 11 of his 17 points in the fourth quarter, and LaMarcus Aldridge had 10 points and 14 rebounds. The had won three straight.

Pacers 100, Celtics 98

In Indianapolis, Paul George had 26 points and 10 rebounds, and Jordan Hill added 16 points and 10 rebounds to help Indiana beat Boston.

Monta Ellis made two free throws with 13.7 seconds left to snap a 98-all tie. Avery Bradley, who had fouled Ellis, missed a potential winning 3-point at-



NBA BRIEFS

Jazz not worried about Hayward's slow start

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Gordon Hayward entered the season ready to raise his profile in the league. Things are off to a slower start than expected through three games. Hayward has averaged 12 points, 3.7 rebounds and 2.7 assists going into Wednesday's home opener against the Trail Blazers. Those aren't the numbers those around the organization—or Hayward—hoped for, but there's certainly no panic from such a small sample size. "Just a little bit of a slow start for me personally, but the team is playing well and that's what I'm focused on," Hayward said. "I'll find a way to get it going and get back in the groove of things. Hopefully I can find it in this next game. But feeling good about where we're at as a team." Hayward returned from the summer visibly stronger and said he worked on finishing during the offseason. He showed that late in a season-

^{AP}
Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James waits during a timeout in the second half of an NBA basketball game against the New York Knicks, Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2015, in Cleveland. James intentionally torn the sleeves on the new jerseys being worn by the Cavaliers in their game against the Knicks.

tempt for the Celtics.

Isaiah Thomas led Boston with 27 points on 9-of-19 shooting, and Bradley added 21 points.

Trail Blazers 108, Jazz 92

In Salt Lake City, Damian Lillard had 35 points and C.J. McCollum added 27 as Portland defeated Utah.

Lillard shot 14 of 27 for his second consecutive 30-point game. Al-Farouq Aminu finished with 13 points and Mason Plumlee added 12 points and 16 rebounds for the Trail Blazers, who shot a season-high 53.2 percent from the field.

Gordon Hayward scored a season-high 19 for the Jazz, and Trey Burke had 17 off the bench.

Suns 118, Kings 97

In Phoenix, Eric Bledsoe scored 19 points and Brandon Knight added 17 as Phoenix routed Sacramento.

Alex Len had a season-high 16 points and T.J. Warren added 13 for the Suns, who put six players in double figures and never trailed. Phoenix snapped a two-game skid against the Kings.

Kosta Koufos led the Kings with 16 points off the bench. Sacramento played without All-Star center DeMarcus Cousins for the second consecutive game because of a strained right Achilles.

opening loss to Detroit after struggling much of the night. Shots just haven't fallen, as Hayward is shooting what would be a career-low 35.3 percent from the field.

Heat says Gerald Green hospitalized, reasons unclear

MIAMI (AP)—Gerald Green of the Miami Heat was hospitalized Wednesday for unknown reasons, and will not accompany the team for its trip to Minnesota for a game there Thursday. Green was not with the Heat on Tuesday night when they lost to the Atlanta Hawks. The team said that he was sitting out with an illness. The team released a statement saying Green was admitted Wednesday morning to an undisclosed hospital. The team says, "right now our concerns are with Gerald" and declined further comment. Green has averaged 10.3 points in three games with the Heat. He signed with the club as a free agent in July.

Manziel to start for injured McCown against unbeaten Bengals



CLEVELAND
(AP)—Welcome to The Jungle, Johnny.

With starting quarterback Josh McCown unable to play because of a painful rib injury, Johnny Manziel will start Thursday night against the Cincinnati Bengals, who treated him so rudely as a rookie on the road last year and now get him on their home turf.

In his first NFL start last season, Manziel was chased, sacked, intercepted and taunted by the Bengals in a 30-0 embarrassment.

Now, Manziel's facing one of the league's four remaining unbeaten teams on short notice.

McCown was unable to practice Tuesday night because of his ribs—and sore shoulder—and Browns coach Mike Pettine announced the decision to start Manziel on Wednesday before the team left for Cincinnati.

"On the short week we realized that Josh just wasn't going to be able to get to the point where he could go," Pettine said. "Johnny has worked hard to prepare himself. He is excited about his opportunity and we are all looking forward to the challenge we face in a good Bengals football team."

McCown played through severe pain in the second half Sunday in a 34-20 loss to Arizona. The 36-year-old quarterback said Tuesday he was having difficulty breathing and sleeping because his ribs were so sore. If he's not able to play at all, the



Cleveland Browns quarterback Johnny Manziel, right, is stopped by St. Louis Rams defensive end Eugene Sims during the fourth quarter of an NFL football game Sunday, Oct. 25, 2015, in St. Louis.

Browns will have third-stringer Austin Davis active to back up Manziel against the Bengals.

This will be the second start this season for Manziel, who

won against Tennessee in Week 2 when McCown was sidelined with a concussion sustained on the season's opening drive on Sept. 13 against the Jets. Man-

ziel replaced McCown late in the second half the past two weeks.

The 2012 Heisman Trophy winner, who is also being in-

vestigated by the NFL for a recent domestic dispute, will be able to show a prime-time TV audience his improvement since his rocky rookie season. The Browns have been pleased with Manziel's dedication and progress following a rough first year, which was followed by a lengthy stay in a rehab facility for an unspecified problem.

Manziel won that lone start this season, completing 8 of 15 passes for 172 yards and two touchdowns in a 28-14 victory over the Titans. Manziel, though, fumbled twice on plays where he was under pressure.

His starting debut against the Bengals in last season's home finale couldn't have gone worse. He passed for 80 yards, threw two interceptions and endured some taunts from Bengals defenders, who relished the chance to take down the hyped QB.

"Obviously, that was not the first career start I would have hoped for or expected when the Bengals came to our stadium last year," Manziel said. "I did learn from it and I feel much more confident in my abilities now because of the progress I feel like I've made over this season. My experience in that game from last year should help me."

Pettine said Manziel has come a long way since that performance.

"He's a different player," Pettine said. "I just think we've all seen it from going back to the amount of work in the spring to training camp."

"When the rush became live,

I think that's where you saw that he made his biggest improvement with his demeanor in the pocket. That it wasn't as frenetic, that his feet were calm.

"I just think he has a really good understanding of what we're doing, understands the plays, what's designed for what. All the intricate details, he has a much better grasp of and it's shown when he's been out there."

Last week, Manziel was interviewed by a league adviser about his actions in an Oct. 12 argument with his girlfriend, Colleen Crowley, who told police he hit her during their disagreement. If Manziel violated the league's personal conduct policy he could be fined or suspended.

A league spokesman said in an email to the AP that Manziel's case "continues to be under review."

Manziel hasn't played enough for the Browns to know if can be their long-term solution at quarterback, but general manager Ray Farmer feels the 22-year-old can develop into a quality starter.

Farmer said Manziel's off-field issue last month hasn't changed his belief.

"I would tell you from the interactions here in the building and the time I have spent with him and what I have seen of him here recently is definitely positive," he said. "I understand where the league is and we are going to continue to listen and wait until that comes out. I think that he has matured."

Steelers eager to move past injury-marred first half

PITTSBURGH (AP)—The bold-faced names expected to power one of the NFL's most talented offenses have spent the first half of the season like passengers on a subway at rush hour, one hopping on the train while another hops off. The defense that entered September as a question mark is now an aggressive exclamation point.

Good luck trying to figure the Pittsburgh Steelers out. They're too busy trying to plug holes to try.

Maurkice Pouncey? Still on injured reserve and increasingly unlikely to return. Le'Veon Bell? Out for the season with a torn MCL in his right knee. Ben Roethlisberger? Lumbering around with a bulky brace on the throbbing left leg that forced him to miss a month.

Maybe the only good thing about Pittsburgh's opening eight weeks is that they're over.

"We're closing the chapter on the first half of the season, so that's a good thing," Roethlisberger said Wednesday. "We can move on and don't have to talk about it, because there were some negatives in that first half."

The infuriating kind the Steelers (4-4) had little control over. Pouncey didn't even

make it to September after tearing up his left ankle in pre-season. Roethlisberger and Bell played alongside each other for all of four quarters before Bell's right knee was pinned awkwardly underneath him in the second quarter of last weekend's loss to Cincinnati. Wide receiver Martavis Bryant sat out five games stemming from a drug suspension and a minor knee issue while Bell was forced to watch for two weeks while serving a suspension of his own.

Though Roethlisberger stressed he "doesn't see why anything has changed" in terms of expectations, the reality is the group that walks onto the field on Sunday against surprising Oakland (4-3) doesn't resemble the one everyone thought they'd see.

Never one to blame issues on health - as coach Mike Tomlin likes to say the injury rate is 100 percent - absorbing so many to so many vital parts in such a short period of time is less than ideal.

"It's been frustrating and I know where offensively we can be," right tackle Marcus Gilbert said. "Dealing with these injuries to key players kind of affects the offense."

Roethlisberger and offensive coordinator Todd Haley figured the Steelers could average 30 points a game when the season started. So far Pittsburgh has only hit that number once, putting up 43 in a romp over San Francisco in Week 2 that looked more impressive at the time than it does in hindsight.

The 49ers are a mess and when Roethlisberger was tackled awkwardly against St. Louis seven days later, any early momentum came to a shuddering stop. Roethlisberger's return versus Cincinnati put Pittsburgh as close to full strength as it's been all year. It lasted less than two quarters. By halftime Bell was in the locker room and the Steelers were scrambling.

"We have to find a way to get the job done," wide receiver Antonio Brown said. "We can't place an emphasis on who is not there."

Veteran DeAngelo Williams filled in capably while Bell was suspended and ripped off a 55-yard sprint in the third quarter against Cincinnati. Yet he hasn't been a true feature back over an extended stretch since 2008, when he made his lone Pro Bowl.

Tomlin promised his team

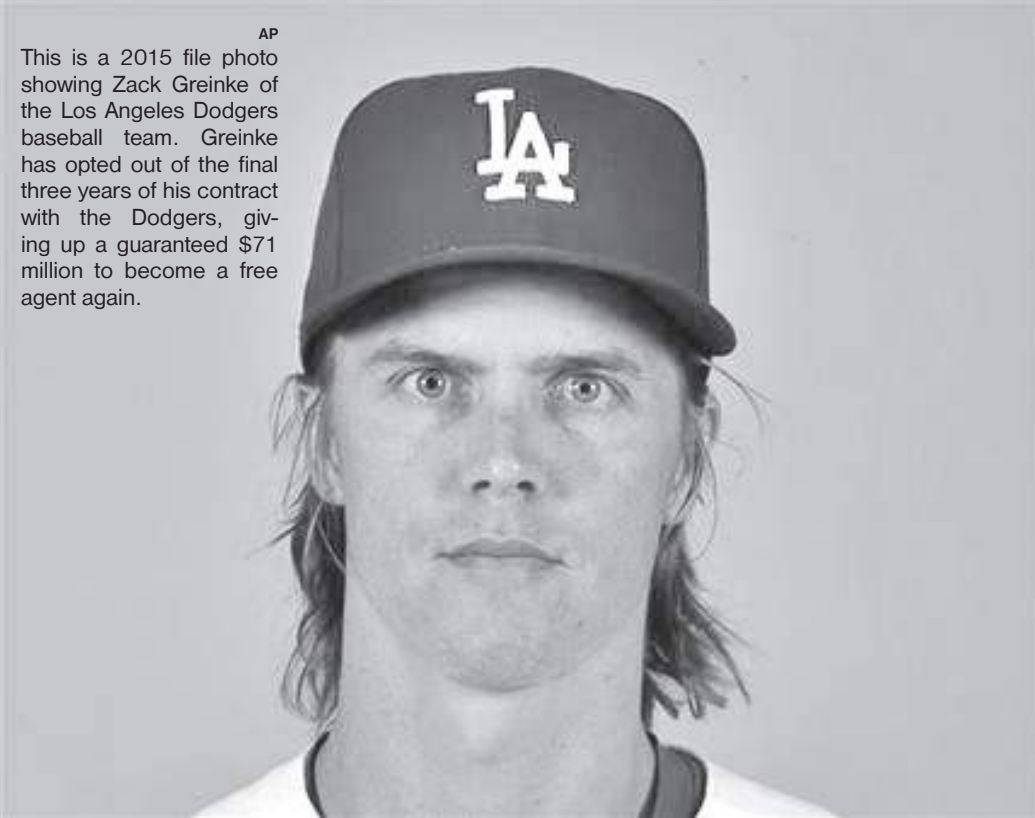
would "rally around" Williams and even at .500 the Steelers are hardly out of the playoff mix. Yet with a brutal post-Thanksgiving stretch that includes trips to Seattle and Cincinnati as well as a visit from Denver, Pittsburgh is rapidly running out of wiggle room. A loss to the Raiders would be a significant blow to a group that began the year firmly believing it could contend for the AFC championship.

That belief still exists, thanks in large part to the rapid maturity of the defense. Coordinator Keith Butler has instilled his group with an aggressiveness it lacked during longtime coordinator Dick LeBeau's final seasons. Pittsburgh is fifth in points allowed and sacks even with defensive end Stephon Tuitt and linebacker Ryan Shazier spending the first two months dealing with various medical issues.

"This is the game we sign up for," defensive end Cam Heyward said. "That's why we like it. We want our defense to have the pressure on our back. If our offense gives us 3 points we think we can win games."

Good, because there may be a point in the near future where it will have to.

Greinke gives up \$71M, becomes free agent again



AP
This is a 2015 file photo showing Zack Greinke of the Los Angeles Dodgers baseball team. Greinke has opted out of the final three years of his contract with the Dodgers, giving up a guaranteed \$71 million to become a free agent again.

NEW YORK (AP)—Pitcher Zack Greinke opted out of the final three years of his contract with the Los Angeles Dodgers on Wednesday, giving up a guaranteed \$71 million to become a free agent again.

The Dodgers are expected to make a \$15.8 million qualifying offer Friday, which he will certainly reject. Los Angeles then would be eligible to receive an extra draft pick after the first round next year if Greinke signs with another team.

The Dodgers' had baseball's highest payroll at the end of the regular season, a record \$289 million. By opting out, Greinke is forcing the front office to decide whether it wants to commit even more money with a new deal that would take him into his late 30s.

The 32-year-old right-hander was 19-3 with a major league-

best 1.66 ERA this season, when he struck out 200 in 222 2-3 innings.

A three-time All-Star, Greinke left the Los Angeles Angels at the end of the 2012 season and signed a \$147 million, six-year contract with the Dodgers, where he joined with Clayton Kershaw to form one of the top rotations in baseball. This season, Greinke was the first Dodgers pitcher to start an All-Star Game since Brad Penny in 2006. While Los Angeles won three straight NL West titles,

it has not reached the World Series since winning the 1988 championship.

He had the right to terminate the contract within three days of the end of the 2015 World Series. The deal with Los Angeles called for him to earn \$24 million next year, \$23 million in 2017 and \$24 million in 2018.

Greinke was among 12 additional players who became free agents, the Major League Baseball Players Association said Wednesday, raising the total to 151.

LEE

From Page 32

The China versus Indonesia in the lower bracket quarterfinal was scheduled to be played late Wednesday afternoon, but was rained-out and reset to yesterday morning with the winner meeting Lee and Seah in the afternoon semis tiff.

Joining Lee and Seah in the Final Four were Malaysia's Belinda Chai Wi Xin and Chinese-Taipei's Yi Tsen Cho and Indonesia's Hernanda Cholis and Faiza Saskia. Xin and Cho advanced to the semifinals after a walkover win against the top-ranked pair of Arrum Damarsari and Fadona Kusumawati of Indonesia, while Cholis and Saskia pulled off an upset against the third seed duo of Claudia Ng of Hong Kong and Chinese-Taipei's Ssu-Yi Wu, 2-6, 6-4, 10-8.

Meanwhile, Lee dropped

her quarterfinal match in the singles event, losing to seventh-ranked Joleta Budiman of Indonesia, 3-6, 3-6. Budiman will now face Ng in the lower bracket semis after the latter won over the No. 5 pick Kusumawati, 5-1 (retired).

In the upper bracket Final Four pairing, it will be Wang against Gravititas Putri. Wang prevailed in the battle of unranked players, outclassing Nnere, 5-7, 6-2, 6-1, while Gravititas Putri knocked off Mellenia Putri, 6-3, 6-7 (2), 6-0.

Despite her quarterfinal defeat, Lee is already assured of ITF Junior ranking points in the Singapore event and could earn more if she makes it past the semis in the doubles contest. Quarterfinalists in the singles event of the Grade 5 tournament are awarded 10 points, while semifinalists and the champions in the doubles take 10 and 20 points (each), respectively. The doubles runners-up will go home with 15 ITF Junior ranking points.

Mets GM Alderson collapses during news conference

NEW YORK (AP)—Mets general manager Sandy Alderson collapsed while talking with reporters during a news conference to announce a contract extension for manager Terry Collins, then was able to walk away.

New York said Alderson did not eat breakfast, felt lightheaded under the lights of the news conference and

fainted. The Mets said he was being examined by the team's training staff.

Alderson and Collins sat at a table for the 20-minute formal portion of the news conference Wednesday in the Citi Field interview room, and Alderson then spent about 10 minutes answering questions from broadcast media.

He switched sides of the

room to speak with text media and was 13 minutes into that session when he confirmed the Mets had given permission to the Los Angeles Dodgers to speak with New York bench coach Bob Geren about their open manager's job. Alderson was asked about outfielder Juan Lagares' doctor's appointment Wednesday when his eyes became glassy and he

started to fall.

Alderson was grabbed by reporters and photographers, preventing him from falling onto the riser hard. Placed on his back, Alderson was down for about a minute, then was assisted to his feet and into a chair.

"So where were we?" he joked with a smile before he walked away with other team officials.

TEEN

From Page 32

The team has a good mix of first-timers and veterans of off-island competitions and Angeles expects the latter to provide leadership to the former.

"For our experienced players, this is another chance for them to improve from their last tournament. These players are the better ones and must help the first-timers and show to them that they are improving and their level of play is getting higher because of their experiences in the past tournaments," Angeles said.

The Teen Ayuyus will be

playing against four countries in the festival with each match having 30-minute halves. The CNMI bets will debut against Chinese-Taipei this Sunday and then will have two matches on Monday, facing Hong Kong first in the morning and Guam in the afternoon. Their last assignment will be North Korea on Nov. 10.

"I believe we have good chances against all the teams, but it would be a tough one against North Korea. We can win or draw against Hong Kong and Taipei and can beat Guam again. But again, it depends on their mental preparation. Physically they can compete, but

sometimes it is their mental that is weak," said Angeles, who asked his wards to give their 100 percent in every play.

The Commonwealth players have been preparing for the festival for more than a month, going all out in the last two weeks of their training session by practicing five times a week. They will have their last training today when they play the CNMI U14 National Team in a scrimmage at the Koblerville Elementary School Field before leaving for Guam tomorrow morning.

Well-wishers

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association president Jerry

Tan led the well-wishers for the Teen Ayuyus during last night's send-off ceremony and was joined by CNMI head of delegation Associate Judge David Wiseman, NMIFA technical director Kiyoshi Sekiguchi, NMIFA Youth Committee chair Vickie Izuka, NMIFA general secretary Ross Zapanta, and players' parents and various club officials.

"Do you best and have confidence," said Tan, who took note of the CNMI's win over Guam in a similar football festival (Asian Football Confederation) held in Beijing in September and hopes the Teen Ayuyus will duplicate that feat against the

hosts on Monday.

"Be respectful to your fellow players, officials, and other participants in the EAFF event and I hope you will return to Saipan as better players," Izuka said in a separate inspirational speech at the send-off rites.

Meanwhile, Austria, who is the Teen Ayuyus' team captain, vowed to represent the CNMI well in the festival.

"We will do our very best. We will win as a team, lose as a team, and fight as a team," said Austria, who is among the experienced players on the squad having represented the CNMI in the AFC event in Beijing and Laos this year.

PANGELINAN

From Page 32

and seven days a week once he clinched an Olympic berth.

"Every athlete dreams of competing in the Olympics. It is the grand stage and the culmination of your training and hard work. I know the level of competition in the Olympics. I was expecting to face the elite paddlers of the world, so I also need to be at my best," he added.

Pangelinan reached the semifinals of the 500m men's singles flatwater canoe event and was 10 seconds behind in claiming another semis spot in the 1000m.

He was seventh in the 500m preliminaries, clocking

2:12.696 to earn a semifinals berth but he ended up ninth in the semis going five seconds slower in the qualifying event. He finished eighth in the 1,000m race (4:49.284), missing the last semis spot by 10 seconds against Angola's Fortunato Luis Pacavira (4:39.538).

"I took pride in representing Guam. My mindset at that time was, win or lose, I made it to the Olympics. Me, an island boy from a small island in the Marianas," added Pangelinan, who is now based in San Diego, California.

A few months after competing in the Olympics, he decided to go to the mainland and bought a one-way ticket to San Diego uncertain of his future.

He went back to school, at San Diego State University to finish his degree in physical therapy.

"I got my bachelors degree in Sports Science and Physiology at San Diego State University. And this year, I opened my own business, the FitLab Gym in San Diego," added Pangelinan, whose mother is from Saipan.

He advised all students who attended Thursday's event at the MHS cafeteria to never give up no matter what life brings. "You must be persistent, never give up. I have failed many times but I never give up. When I started paddling, I always fell in the water. The people who always see me were laughing at me but that did not discourage me."

The 28-year-old Pangelinan

said the thought of competing in another Olympics also crossed his mind but as of now he's busy managing his gym, which opened this year.

"Yes, it's fun to earn another Olympic berth but just think of the amount of time and sacrifice that you need to do to train," added Pangelinan.

He also plays basketball, does some weightlifting, runs, jogs, and reads in his free time. "I read a lot to educate and stimulate my mind."

Pangelinan visited several schools on Thursday to give a brief talk on having a healthy lifestyle, being active, and eating right. The program is a joint project of the Northern Marianas College-Cooperative Research

Extension and Education Service and OceanSoul Unlimited.

He also went to Chacha Oceanview and Tanapag and Dandan middle schools on Thursday. On Friday, he will be visiting Hopwood Junior High School, Mt. Carmel School, and San Antonio Middle School (tentative).

On Saturday, Pangelinan will be giving a free clinic to all participants of the Marianas PaddleFest at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's beach side.

Cora Alico and Derek Mandell (athletics), Ricardo "RJ" Blas (judo), Chris Duenas (swimming), and Maria Dunn (wrestling) were the other Guam Olympic athletes in the 2008 Beijing Games.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES				
NBA STANDINGS				
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	4	0	1.000	—
New York	2	2	.500	2
Boston	1	2	.333	2½
Philadelphia	0	3	.000	3½
Brooklyn	0	4	.000	4
Southeast Division				
Atlanta	4	1	.800	—
Washington	2	1	.667	1
Miami	2	2	.500	1½
Orlando	1	3	.250	2½
Charlotte	1	3	.250	2½
Central Division				
Detroit	3	1	.750	—
Cleveland	3	1	.750	—
Chicago	3	2	.600	½
Indiana	1	3	.250	2
Milwaukee	1	3	.250	2
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
San Antonio	3	1	.750	—
Memphis	3	2	.600	½
Dallas	2	2	.500	1
Houston	1	3	.250	2
New Orleans	0	4	.000	3
Northwest Division				
Oklahoma City	3	1	.750	—
Minnesota	2	1	.667	½
Utah	2	1	.667	½
Portland	2	2	.500	1
Denver	2	2	.500	1
Pacific Division				
L.A. Clippers	4	0	1.000	—
Golden State	4	0	1.000	—
Phoenix	2	2	.500	2
Sacramento	1	3	.250	3
L.A. Lakers	0	4	.000	4
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS				

Blue Haus, MJD/GPPC win in San Antonio caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Blue Haus and MJD/GPPC banked on their strong fourth-quarter showing to down their respective foes in the 2015 San Antonio Community Action Network Basketball League last Tuesday night at the San Antonio court.

MJD/GPPC prevailed in the battle of unbeaten teams in the masters division after slipping past Armatech, 73-66, while Blue Haus topped GMI Market, 76-64, in the open category.

Blue Haus outgunned GMI Market, 15-4, in the first six minutes of the fourth period to turn a 53-46 cushion to a 68-58 spread and kept the double-digit winning margin in the end.

Angelo Fernando drilled 8 points in the fourth-quarter surge, while Manolo Manalo and Marlon De Dios chipped in 5 and 3, respectively, to set up the breakaway for Blue Haus.

GMI Market, on the other hand, was held to one field goal off Joe Sablan's triple that came with three minutes already gone by in the final canto. Mike Cabanas scored the other point a few seconds later and GMI Market continued to struggle offensively in the next two minutes before bagging garbage baskets in the homestretch with Blue Haus already assured of its second win in three games.

Fernando paced Blue Haus with his 19 points, while El-

mer Esdreton added 13, 6 of them came in the third quarter where his team gained some leverage after the match was tied for the last time at 45-all. Esdreton knocked in four free throws and a field goal in the final two minutes of the third frame, while Junar Guiab had two more charities to hand Blue Haus a 7-point cushion entering the fourth. GMI Market got only 1 point in the windup off Jesse Doseo's split.

Meanwhile, in the masters division, MJD/GPPC improved to a 3-0 record after eking out a come-from-behind win against Armatech.

MJD/GPPC fell behind by as much as 14 points in the first half, 38-24, and still trailed at the end of the third, 49-52, when it went all out in the fourth to grab the victory from Armatech.

Randy Mungcal led MJD/GPPC's fight-back in the final canto, scoring 10 of his 14 points in the fourth, including the team's last 4 markers. Jorge De Guzman and Jun Tabora contributed 4 markers apiece, while Jojo Parcotilo, Alex Ocampo, and Jun Alipio chipped in 2 each, as MJD/GPPC nearly doubled-up Armatech in the payoff canto, 24-14.

Alipio top-scored for MJD/GPPC with his 17 points and helped the squad bring down Armatech's double-digit lead to 3 at the end of the third frame after firing 9 straight points and a total of 13 in the penultimate quarter.

Bruce Berline had 21 for Armatech, which dropped to a 2-1



record. The Armatech big man and Dindo Pablo were the only players who scored for their team in the fourth canto.

Open

Blue Haus 76 – Fernando 19, Esdreton 13, De Dios 13, Manalo 8, Demapan 6, Berline 4, Talania 4, Moises 4, Guiab 3, Capalad 2.

GMI Market 64 – Je. Santos 13, Doseo 10, Jon Santos 10, Sablan 9, Cabanas 7, Petersburg 6, Babauta 5, Palino 3, Deleon Guerrero 1.

Scoring by quarters: 14-9, 29-36, 53-46, 76-64.

Masters

MJD/GPPC 73 – Alipio 17, Mungcal 14, Tabora 11, De Guzman 7, Vargas 6, Parcotilo 4, Z. Deocares 4, Sampang 2, Rosario 2.

Armatech 66 – Berline 21, Abuy 13, Pablo 8, Moreno 7, Malasarte 4, Canedo 4, Duenas 4, Gabaldon 3.

Scoring by quarters: 14-17, 26-38, 49-52, 73-66.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Blue Haus' Elmer Esdreton goes up for a layup against GMI Market's Mike Babauta, right, while the latter's teammates look on during the third quarter of their Open division game in the San Antonio caging last Tuesday at the San Antonio court.

Duenas eager to bounce back after setbacks

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER



Trench Tech Gym's Josh "Chaos" Duenas is hoping that all his hard work would pay off when he makes his return inside the cage in the Pacific Xtreme Combat 50 on Dec. 4 at the University of Guam Calvo Fieldhouse in Mangilao.

Duenas (4-5 with 1 KO) did not fight for more than a year and will be facing a tall order when he goes up against New Zealand's Kai Cara-France (10-5, 5 KOs) of Tiger Muay Thai in one of the undercard fights.

The last two years wasn't that good for Duenas as he lost two of his last three fights and was stripped of the flyweight belt after failing to make weight in his scheduled title defense against High Blood Pressure's Ernie Santos (2-1) of Guam in last year's Trench Warz 18: Rock & Rumble.

Duenas said all of his past heartaches is his motivation to become one of the contenders for the 125-lb title.

"I did not fight for one year and I was stripped of the Trench Warz flyweight belt for not making weight. These are my motivation in my bid to claim the PXC belt. I am more motivated to get back," Duenas told *Saipan Tribune* during a



JON PEREZ

Josh "Chaos" Duenas is aiming to regain his winning form as he faces New Zealand's Kai Cara-France in next month's Pacific Xtreme Combat 50 in Guam.

break at his training camp at the Trench Tech Gym.

Duenas lost to Guam's McK-

lane Alfred (3-3) of Guahan Top Team in PXC 40 on Oct. 25, 2013, and Filipino Crisanto

Pitpitunge (8-3) of Lakay MMA in PXC 44 in June last year that sandwiched his victory by armbar submission against stablemate Jordan Manglona (3-1).

"The PXC is a bigger stage since it also has Japanese, Korean, and Filipino fighters competing. It is rally competitive so you really need to be at your best and I want to stay confident," he added.

Duenas said he prepared hard and is focused in winning against Kara-France. "I watched some of his fights and I studied his every move. He is a stand up fighter, so I will just stick to my technique and my game plan."

Cara-France is on a three-fight winning streak after dropping two straight matches against Filipino superstar Mark "Mugen" Striegl (14-1) and Australian Gustavo Falciroli (15-4, with 3 KOs) in separate fights last year.

His last win was by way of technical knockout over Shantaram Maharaj of Australia in K-Oz Entertainment's Bragging Rights 7: Resurrection on Sept. 27.

Duenas is not Cara-France's original opponent and will just be replacing fellow Trench Tech warrior Vince "The Clinch" Masga (6-1).

Masga was supposed to face Cara-France in the scheduled flyweight bout but the Saipan fighter suffered a concussion while in training.

Guerrero is Amigos October Ace

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER



Terry Guerrero earned the Amigos Golf Club's October Ace of the Month after the group's tournament held last Oct. 18 at the Marianas Country Club.

Guerrero tallied a 4-under 140 after scores in the qualifying round—held on Oct. 4 also at MCC—and October Ace, which were both played at the par-72 Marpi golf course, were combined.

Guerrero had a gross score of 90 in the qualifying but the 23-handicapper ended up with a 5-under 67. He shot at a 96 in the Ace of the Month for a 1-over 73 giving him that 140 overall.

Frank Ermitanio and Joe Sablan Jr. were eight shots back as they both ended with 148s but the former clinched runner-up honors after shooting a 2-under 70 in the qualifying round.

Ermitanio shot a 4-over 78 in the Ace of the Month for that 148, while Sablan Jr. fired a pair of 2-over 74s to tie the former.

Sherlyn Jones came in fourth with a 149 as the 13-handicapper fired a 1-un-

der 71 in the qualifying round but finished with a 4-over 78 in the October Ace.

John Guerrero, with an 11 handicap, also had a 149 behind an even par 72 and a 5-over 77.

Dung Tenorio came in sixth scoring 150 (72-78), Joe Tudela was seventh also with a 150 (72-77), Ben Jones at eighth with 154 (73-81), Did-ing Hocog ninth after a 155 (68-77), and Dr. Larry Hocog 10th following a 161 (79-82).

Felix Sasamoto only played in the qualifying round with a 97, while Ben Jones Jr. only joined the October Ace and finished with an even par 72. Sasamoto had a 10 handicap, while Jones Jr. had 10.

The Amigos held their November qualifying round last Oct. 28 at the Coral Ocean Golf Resort and results were not yet available at press time. The November Ace is set on Sunday, Nov. 8, also at Coral Ocean.

Play will then shift to MCC on Nov. 15 for the December qualifying with the December Ace scheduled on Nov. 22.

The Amigos Ace of Aces yearend tournament will be held on Dec. 5 and 6 at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

LeBron scores
23, rips jersey
in Cavs' 96-86
win over Knicks

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Saipan Tribune Sports



Blue Haus,
MJD/GPPC win
in San Antonio
caging

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Players and officials of the CNMI U13 National Team pose for a photo during a send-off ceremony yesterday at the lobby of Kanoa Resort. The squad is heading to Guam this weekend to participate in the East Asian Football Federation Boys U13 Festival 2015.

Teen Ayuyus told to capitalize on EAFF event

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI U13 National Team coach Jerseh Angeles wants the Teen Ayuyus to take advantage of the opportunity to participate in the East Asian Football Federation Boys U13 Festival 2015.

"They are given a chance to represent the island, which a lot of kids are dreaming of. They will experience playing a high level of football at an early

stage of their lives while having fun playing the most popular sport in the world," said Angeles, who attended a send-off ceremony for the squad last night at

the lobby of Kanoa Resort.

"Our players will have realization on the difference of Saipan football from high level of football of other countries and hopefully they will learn something from other teams and apply it here when they play in our tournaments," the Teen Ayuyus head coach added.

Angeles, who will be assisted by Chelsea FC Soccer School Hong Kong's Taketomo Suzuki, is bringing in an 18-member squad to the EAFF event that will have its

actual games this Sunday and run until Nov. 10. The group is composed of goalkeepers Floyd Muna and Jason Quimzon, defenders Eun Syu Hahn, Kirt Andon, Lolobeyong Benito, and Ian Maniago, midfielders Mark Esalan, Thaiph Austria, Sebastien Manabat, Kirro Batino, Raseff Altamirano, Angelo Bergancia, Justin Achas, and Jhoey Noble, and forwards John Michale Rojas, Edward Cho, Kaden Church, and Taka Borja.

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Pangelinan thought of backing out from Beijing Olympics

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Guam paddler Sean Pangelinan said that he almost pulled out from the XXIX Summer Olympic Games in Beijing, China in 2008.

Pangelinan earned the chance of joining five other Guam athletes to the Beijing Games after clinching an Olympic berth following a third place finish in the tough 2007 Oceania Championships in Australia.

"I did not know what to think. I thought of not competing since I felt I wasn't ready yet for the

Olympics," the Yona-born Pangelinan told *Saipan Tribune* after his brief talk at Marianas High School yesterday.

"Actually, I was training to qualify in the 2012 London Olympics. I was shocked that

I qualified earlier. When I won bronze in the Oceania Championships and learned that I qualified [to] Beijing, I was overwhelmed. My mind was thinking of a lot of things at that time," he added.

Like an obedient soldier Pangelinan marched on and prepared harder after finally achieving his Olympic dream. He trained four times a day

See PANGELINAN on Page 30



JON PEREZ

Guam Olympic paddler Sean Pangelinan talks to several students at the Marianas High School as he encourages them to stay active and try paddlesports during one of his stops in several Saipan schools yesterday.

Lee makes semis in Singapore



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Carol Lee, seen here in action in the CNMI-hosted ITF Junior event in May this year, made it to the semifinals of the doubles contest in the Singapore ITF Junior Championships 2015.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The upset axe of the CNMI's Carol Lee worked again in the semifinals of the doubles contest in the Singapore ITF Junior Championships 2015.

Lee, who earlier stunned third-ranked Shevita Aulana of Indonesia, 6-1, 6-4, in the singles event, teamed up with Singapore's Charmaine Seah in the doubles and ousted No. 2 seed Aulana and another Indon, Novella Millenia Putri, last Wednesday at the Kallang Tennis Centre in Stadium Road.

The unseeded Lee and Seah took only two sets to eliminate Aulana and Millenia Putri, 6-2, 6-3. The victory was the second for the CNMI-Singapore tandem and it put them in the semifinal round. Lee and Seah, who also got their first win via sweep against Singapore's Ruhi Kadar and Tessa Wong, 6-0, 6-0, will be pitted in the semis against the winner in the other quarterfinal match between the pairs of China's Tingting Pei and Xin Xu Wang and No. 4 Oxi Gravitas Putri and Samantha Nanere of Indonesia.

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